

# WALSALL CHRONICLE

Thursday, March 5, 2015

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## WI GROWTH

Blooming great tribute at Arboretum



PAGE 4

## FEW SMILES

Another home defeat as big day nears



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## Rundown car park is facing bulldozer

THE demolition of a multi-storey car park in Walsall is poised to get the go-ahead despite dozens of objections. A replacement parking area which is half the size is being planned for Caldmore after owners said the old building had suffered from vandalism.

The run-down, 96-space garage block off Little London has since been closed by Walsall Housing Group due to security concerns, after falling into disrepair. The aim is to create a 40-space surface level car park which is floodlit under the plans due to be considered by Walsall Council today.

But a 48-name petition has been collected in opposition to concerns over the long-term reduction in bays, with the number of flats that need to be served, once the multi-storey is demolished and replaced.

Existing parking issues along the main West Bromwich Street and double yellow lines in the area have also been raised.

Members of the planning committee are being recommended to grant approval. A report from head of planning David Elsworth says: "The applicant has stated that residents would only use the ground floor level due to fear of theft and anti-social behaviour."

## New channel, same licence

VIEWERS of a new television channel based in Walsall are being reminded they need a TV licence to watch the programmes.

Big Centre TV launched on Saturday and is available on Freeview Channel 8.

Mark Whitehouse, spokesman for TV Licensing, said: "As with all television viewing in the UK, if you are watching programmes as they are being broadcast then the law requires you to be covered by a valid TV Licence."

● Launches - Page 2

# TRAFFIC ISLAND FIGHT GOES ON

## Library joy as council approves budget



Dawn Byrne, front, and fellow members of the Cradle Club celebrate Streetly Library being declared safe

LIBRARIES will no longer close, street cleaning budgets will not be cut - but children's centres will still shut, Walsall Museum is set to close and around 200 jobs will be axed.

Walsall Council's controversial budget has finally been approved, with plenty of winners and losers. Following a dramatic four-hour-long meeting, the Labour-led authority agreed on a definite financial plan for the next 12 months.

There were last-minute changes to the budget during the full council meeting, including a dramatic U-turn on the closure of five libraries

- Pheasey, Streetly, Beechdale, South Walsall and Walsall Wood.

They were due to shut on July 1 this year but have been given a 12-month reprieve, much to the delight of dozens of campaigners.

Dawn Byrne, aged 37, who fought to save Streetly Library, said: "We're ecstatic the library is no longer going to close. I was at the meeting but had no indication they were going to be saved. When they announced the change, there were gasps in the gallery."

"For me it was a complete surprise. I went to sleep with a smile on my face and woke up with a smile."

Other amendments approved at the meeting include free garden waste collections continuing for eight months a year. It was proposed to reduce collections by two months to six months in the year. Council tax will rise by 1.99 per cent, with support for 20,000 of the borough's most needy residents reduced by 25 per cent.

A total of 12 children's centres will close as £4.4 million is wiped from the children's services budget and up to 200 council jobs will go, as well as an unspecified number of senior managerial positions. Walsall Museum will still close in a bid to save £70,000.

Report by Deborah Hardiman

## ONE woman is still fighting a battle for action over a problem traffic island in Walsall after 30 years.

Retired cleaner, Pauline Kirton, aged 80, wants the roundabout near Castlefort JMI School in Walsall Wood, reduced in size due to the problem of buses having to go over the edges, damaging the kerb and leaving big wheel ruts in the ground.

The great-grandmother has vowed not to give up her campaign over what she considers is an unacceptable situation, which she began in 1985 when her own children were pupils.

She claims, despite road improvements carried out by the council in recent years, buses are still driving across the island causing muddy ruts in the grass and kerb damage creating an 'eyesore'. She says better street lighting is also needed to help drivers to negotiate the corners when it is dark.

### Pipeline

Mrs Kirton, who lives in nearby Blakemore Road, claims she discussed the issue with Town Hall staff who advised her there was little cash in the kitty to pay for highway improvements, but there were plans in the pipeline to install bollards.

She said: "Over the years I have spoken to my local MP Sir Richard Shepherd and the council officers about this island because it's still not right. "If you observe the buses you will see that they still roll over the side of the island and the parking outside the school hasn't improved much either."

"I rang the council and I was told there was no



Pauline Kirton, seen at the problem roundabout

money available for the work, but some bollards will be put in to improve it. It's a right eyesore. I think they could perhaps raise the height like the one near the Dilke pub in Aldridge to stop the damage.

"I also think the school has enough land to extend its car park to take some of the parked vehicles off the road." She said she had not yet spoken to any of the three Aldridge and Walsall Wood ward councillors.

In 2008 Councillor Anthony Harris said more than £5,000 had been spent on making Blakemore Road one way to help ease problems. At the time he said 'thoughtless parents' transporting children were part of the issue. No-one was available at Walsall Council for comment.

## New blitz on truants as patrols launched

PUPILS skipping school will be stopped in the streets in a new blitz to tackle the problem of truancy.

From this week education welfare officers and police are launching patrols across Walsall in an effort to 'get to grips' with the issue.

The teams will travel round in a marked vehicle to speak to schoolchildren seen out wandering the streets during lesson time and to tell them to return to classes.

Their parents will also be contacted as part of the partnership initiative that will also see anti-social behaviour issues targeted.

Walsall Council's children's services chief Councillor Barbara Cassidy said: "In our drive to improve outcomes for all our children we feel the need to better get to grips with the issue."

"The move is part of the part of a national programme to ensure more pupils are attending schools."

Sgt Gary Iliff, of Walsall Police, said: "These dedicated multi agency patrols will supplement the existing engagement in schools by local neighbourhood teams."

"There will now be greater support for families at the earliest opportunity to maximise educational opportunity in Walsall."

## Final tickets above 25,000

TICKET sales for Walsall's first Wembley final have broken through the 25,000 mark. The tickets for the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final have flown out of the Banks's over three weeks.

After an initial 20,000 allocation for the club, another 5,000 were requested. The club has insisted everyone who wants a ticket will get one. Fans are being asked to be patient due to the high number of bookings being made.

● Magic - Page 2

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# Paint the town red, Walsall fans told

SADDLERS fans are being urged to paint the town red to get behind their side ahead of the Wembley final next month.

As part of the build-up to the game on March 22, residents, businesses and schools in the town are being encouraged to get behind Dean Smith's boys by decking the town out in the team's colours using banners, scarves and shirts.

Walsall are taking on fellow

League One side Bristol City in the final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy on March 22.

Sponsors Johnstone's Paint will be asking Saddlers fans to 'Paint Walsall Red' on March 10 and the trophy itself will be making an appearance in the town.

Ben Wilde, brand and sponsorship manager for Johnstone's Paint, said: "Excitement is high across Walsall with the club's first

appearance at Wembley drawing ever closer. Painting the town red is a fantastic way for the whole community to come together and demonstrate their support for Dean Smith and the team. We are asking everyone to get into the Wembley spirit and deck the town out in red.

"There are no restrictions on what we are looking for. It would be great to see shops, offices and businesses backing the team by putting

red displays in their windows and schools taking part in non-uniform days to allow children to dress in red.

"We want to make it a very exciting day and continue to build the feel good factor around the whole Walsall community ahead of the big game." The Saddlers have seen a 'phenomenal' demand for tickets with fans have queuing for hours to secure their seats.

# Crossroads back as TV station launches

WRESTLING, community news and old episodes of Crossroads came to the fore when a television channel serving the Black Country went live on Saturday.

Big Centre TV, which is based in Walsall, began broadcasting on channel eight on Freeview at 6pm. Kicked off by ex-ATV presenter Mike Prince and its flagship news programme, the new station aired an episode of Crossroads.

## Dementia patients bid over carers

AN MP joined campaigners to meet a health minister as part of a fight to allow carers of people with dementia to join them in hospital.

Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz met Norman Lamb, minister of state for care and support, and shadow health secretary Andy Burnham with members of John's Campaign.

The campaign was launched by Nicci Gerrard, whose father Dr John Gerrard suffered from Alzheimer's. The aim of the campaign is to extend to family representatives of patients who have dementia, the same rights as parents who have children in hospital.

Ms Vaz said: "When I raised John's Campaign in an adjournment debate I asked to meet with the Health Minister and he agreed to meet with me and members of John's Campaign. The aim is to allow carers of people with dementia the right to accompany them in hospital.

"These carers could feed them, keep them mobile, be their voice and memory bank, and anchor them to the world. The minister was keen to urge all hospitals to allow carers to be with a patient with dementia."

There was also British wrestling, while students at Walsall Studio School hosted their own show.

The presenters include former Express & Star columnist Bob Hall and the Shropshire Star's former news editor Carl Jones. While the paper's former chief reporter Jennifer Meierhans is a senior producer.

The channel was set up by Mike Prince and Chris Perry who writes the TV memories column for the E&S. The pair said they wanted to provide local television which reflects the communities watching it.

Sport, cookery, news, children's shows and music were all be represented during the channel's first week-end.

Carl presented a film review show called Brumwood Yummywood. This will focus on local film-makers, alongside the Hollywood big-hitters.

Fans of ice hockey were able to watch a Midland derby between Solihull Barons and Coventry Blaze, while youngsters woke up to the Bostin' Bear Club.

"It's an incredible honour to bring Crossroads back to viewers. More than 4,500 episodes were filmed, but only about 3,000 have survived and these are mostly from 1978 to 1988," said Mr Perry. "The earlier editions were largely lost and only a few classic editions survive. However, we plan to show all editions available, including those known as the Crossroads Classics.

## Animal magic for Saddlers



Saz Watts, who has painted the Walsall hippo red to mark the Saddlers' achievement

HOPPY the hippo is red-dy to support the Saddlers after being kitted out in club colours ahead of Wembley.

The iconic sculpture has been temporarily coated in Walsall FC red as cup fever grips the town. The hippo has been decorated by artist Sarah Watts of the Human Canvas studio in the town centre.

It comes as Walsall FC, Homeserve and the council have launched the 'We're with Walsall' initiative to encourage people to show their support for the club and bor-

ough. Fans and visitors to the town are now being encouraged to come and take selfies with the concrete hippo which dates back more than 40 years.

It has recently moved from The Bridge to a temporary location outside Walsall Central Library to allow for regeneration works.

The notorious sculpture has even found its way onto Facebook, with a Walsall Hippo Statue Appreciation page set up in its honour.

# Teenager preyed on girls using Facebook

A TEENAGER is facing a lengthy jail term after tricking young girls into posing naked over the internet in exchange for fake modelling contracts and gifts.

Adam Cooke preyed on six victims by using fake Facebook accounts he had set up in the names of girls including 14-year-old singer songwriter Lauren Thalia, who made the semi finals of Britain's Got Talent in 2012, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The 18-year-old, of Willenhall, told the girls, aged between 11 and 14, he could get them modelling contracts and a meet and greet with One Direction in return for posing naked over their webcams.

Mr Glyn Samuel, prosecuting, said it had been a 'short-lived but planned campaign' by Cooke to gain sexual gratification.

In August 2013, officers from the child online safeguarding team sought the assistance of police to serve a search warrant on Cooke's address following a tip-off.

They seized a computer and Cooke was later arrested. Cooke was found to have downloaded almost 70 indecent images of children, including 22 in the most serious category.

Cooke, of Trentham Avenue, Willenhall, admitted eight counts of causing or inciting a child under 16 to engage in sexual activity, three counts of possessing indecent images of children and three counts of taking indecent images of children.

Judge Martin Walsh adjourned for psychiatric reports and Cooke is due to be sentenced on April 29.

## Car found on fire in field

FIREFIGHTERS were called to a car which burst into flames in a field in a suspected arson. Crews responded to the six-foot high blaze at the field off Lime Avenue in Bentley.

Firefighters using breathing apparatus took 90 minutes to extinguish the fire. It is suspected the car was stolen before it was dumped in the field and set alight.

The fire service confirmed that the police were called to look into the matter further.

It happened on Sunday night at 9.16pm.

Police have not yet confirmed whether the fire was an arson attempt.

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## Former alcoholic in affray sentenced

A FORMER alcoholic turned himself in to police four years after a town centre fight because he wanted to get his life on the 'straight and narrow,' a court heard.

Brian Walsh, aged 34, had pleaded guilty to the affray in Walsall town centre in 2010 and had turned up at court to be sentenced in 2011, though he left before the case was called.

However, the police failed to pursue a warrant for his arrest even though he had been on the run and living locally before deciding to hand himself in in January.

Patrick Currie, mitigating, said it was the birth of his child that convinced him he needed to get his life back on track. Walsh, of Foster Street, Bloxwich had also resumed a relationship with his wife after the couple had earlier separated.

Edward Soudsby, prosecuting, said Walsh had been among a group of white men in the Modus Vivendi nightclub in Walsall who were followed by three Asian men after leaving and a fight broke out between them in the street.

The defendant was given a 12 month suspended sentence and ordered to complete 200 hours of unpaid work for the bail breach, by Judge Martin Walsh.

## Pete's work highlighted

MUSIC mogul and Walsall fan Pete Waterman will be celebrated during a concert in London.

Guest artists will take to the stage to pay tribute to him at London's Royal Festival Hall on July 29. Pete Waterman - A Life in Song will take place from 7.30pm with tickets between £50 and £35.

TV figure Michael Grade will host and interview Pete live on stage throughout the show and hear anecdotes about his role in the careers of the likes of Kylie Minogue, Jason Donovan and Steps.

## Buffy is guest

FORMER singer with The Smiths, Morrissey will have veteran Canadian-American singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie as his special guest when he performs at Birmingham's Barclaycard Arena on March 27. Tickets for the concert are £45 and £65.

# Infamous horse slashings papers on sale



Pardoned - George Edalji

Unseen documents once owned by Sherlock Holmes creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle about the infamous Staffordshire horse slashings that he investigated are being put up for sale for £40,000.

The trove is revealed as a new TV drama about the case - Arthur and George - starring actor Martin Clunes aired on Monday.

London auctioneers Bonhams say the letters give an insight to the fractious relationship between Sir Arthur and the then Staffordshire Police chief Capt George Anson. Solicitor George Edalji, the son of the Great Wyrley vicar, was convicted of

the maimings in 1903 and jailed for seven years' hard labour.

But he was given a pardon after a campaign by the esteemed author.

Bonhams head of manuscripts Sarah Lindberg said: "To have such a large collection of handwritten, autographed letters in one collection is very rare."

### Connections

"It is likely the archive was compiled by Anson and passed on. It is now being sold by a private collector who inherited it from a friend who had connections to the Staf-

fordshire area. "We are expecting a lot of interest from collectors of Arthur Conan Doyle memorabilia and fans of Sherlock Holmes - both have a huge international appeal."

The auction will be held at Bonhams' Knightsbridge on March 18.

Historian and ex-teacher Roger Oldfield, of Stafford, who published a book titled Outrage about the court case said: "I expect the show will be based on Julian Barnes' work. He also created a fictitious friend for George. I feel it gives a less than objective impression of him."

# Hospital fined more than £850k over patient delays

WALSALL Manor Hospital has been fined more than £850,000 over less than a year for the delays patients faced waiting in A&E and with arriving ambulance crews.

The hospital's managing trust was hit with the penalties from April to January, and they could further rise by the end of the financial year as the hospital continues to deal with a high numbers of patients.

## Readings by poet in city locations

WALSALL'S former poet laureate Ian Henery has been reading verses from his new book of poems in various Birmingham venues.

Mr Henery has so far given pop-up poetry performances in the foyer of Birmingham Hippodrome, Peters Booksellers and at the Min Min Noodle Bar in the city's Chinese quarter to promote his latest collection Bards of Blidworth.

The Walsall-based solicitor has also entertained at a string of community events. Mr Henery, who lives in Aldridge, said: "I thought it would be fun to do a number of pop-up poetry performances." He also performed recently to mark the Chinese New Year.

His publishers, Think Publications, wanted photographs of him performing his new poems and at every gig for their social media campaigns. Last year Mr Henery was chosen as the poet in residence at Walsall's St Matthew's Church as part of its 800th anniversary and he was previously the borough's poet laureate.

The Manor has continually struggled to reach the four-hour national A&E target and has been hit with a fine of £547,600 from Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) so far during the period.

And despite almost 300 fewer ambulances being recorded in January, in comparison to the previous month, there was a fall in people handed over from crews within 15 minutes. This amounted to 58 per cent. A report to health bosses said there was a computer glitch which meant some hand-overs not being recorded on two days.

Overall it has been hit with a fine of £306,600 for the time it has taken for patients to be transferred to the hospital over the 10-month period.

A report from Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust's head of finance and performance, Ian Baines to the board said they had continued to face 'significant periods of sustained high admissions' at A&E throughout January.

There was an average of 61 admissions a day in January, one of the hospital's busiest ever periods. He said: "There were six days during the month when over 90 ambulances arrived at the department with one of these days recorded over 100.

## Kelly's plea: Give my medal back



Kelly Sotherton receives the gold medal at the Commonwealth Games with Jessica Ennis-Hill, right, and Kylie Wheeler

HEPTATHLETE Kelly Sotherton has made a fresh appeal for help recovering a precious gold medal stolen from her home - urging the thief to hand it in. The 2006 Commonwealth gold medal was stolen from Sotherton's Sutton Coldfield home in the early hours of February 18. A laptop and iPad were also stolen.

The athlete, aged 38, only noticed she had been burgled when she realised her cherished prize was missing, but she doesn't think it was a targeted

effort. "It was an opportunist. They came for the cars," she said.

"I live in Sutton Coldfield which is apparently a hotbed for car thefts. They came for the cars but didn't get them because we look after our car keys at night."

"If it had been a targeted thing, they'd have been looking for other medals, I'm sure. It was an opportunist after the car."

"They shut the patio door as they went out as well, so it's thanks to

them that the cats didn't get out. So they had a conscience, somewhere."

"Me and my partner are both athletes, both mentally and physically strong, but it still shakes you." Sotherton appeared on Crimewatch on Monday night to appeal for help. "Just give it to someone to hand it in," she said. "I don't need to know who you are. You've got my laptop, my iPad, my reading glasses. That medal I'll never get back. Just drop it in the street where someone will find it."

## Restaurant gets hygiene all-clear

A RESTAURANT has reopened after being given the all-clear by council bosses.

Little Bengal in Blackwood Road, Streetly, was temporarily closed after a discovery of mouse droppings. Neil Harris, principal environmental health officer at Walsall Council, said: "The business has carried out all of the work required and there is no longer a risk."

He added they were willing to work with food businesses to improve their hygiene ratings and for more details call 01922 653010 or foodsafety@walsall.gov.uk.

## Wembley trip is theme for event

WALSALL FC's historic trip to Wembley will be the theme of a spring fair at a church in the town. Preparations are under way for the annual spring market at Rushall Parish Church on March 21 at 11am.

The stalls at its community hall in Leigh Road will feature sports themes to mark the Stenders' making the final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Final.

There will be gifts, cakes, bric a brac, books, crafts, plants, a tombola and raffle. Admission is free.

## Crews in call-out to chip pan blaze

A HOUSEHOLDER was led to safety after a chip pan overheated and caught fire at her Walsall home - badly damaging the kitchen.

The 60-year-old stayed inside the premises, in Parkstone Close, Shelfield, when she discovered the kitchen ablaze on Saturday morning.

She was led out unhurt by fire crews after she dialled 999.

## Bakery site set for demolition

THE demolition of one of Walsall's most well-known former employer bases to pave the way for redevelopment has been approved by council planners.

Up to 100 homes are planned for the site of the closed Maple Leaf bakery, in Raleigh Street, Birchills, which was formerly operated by Harvestime and employed hundreds.

## Singers sought

A CHOIR in the Black Country is looking for new members. Walsall Harmonic Male Voice Choir rehearses at the Chucky Club, Beacon Street, Walsall on Mondays at 8pm. Call 0121 502 5751.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



NO, I'm not a racist. I just like throwing black people off trains. The more we learn about the Chelsea fans in the Paris Metro, the stranger it gets.

FOR 800 years the Black Death has been blamed on rats. Now, scientists in Norway believe the plague was spread by gerbils, not rats. We are collectively guilty of eight centuries of historic rat abuse. It is time for royal pardons, an apology in Parliament, compensation and a full public inquiry with a sympathetic chairman. Over to you, Roland.

THE most wince-making moment in Malcolm Rifkind's chat with bogus lobbyists is when he declares that, because he is a former foreign secretary, he can arrange "useful access" to ambassadors everywhere. I doubt it. There is nothing as ex as an ex-minister. Ambassadors want to talk to today's supremo, not yesterday's man. Messrs Rifkind and Straw might get invited to the ambassador's party – but only to hand out the sweeties. Why, Malcolm, you are spoiling us with these Ferrero Rocher . . .

BACK IN 1969 the hit by Blue Mink, Melting Pot, was the last word in politically-correct sentiment, cheerfully looking forward to a time when all the races would be mixed into one coffee-coloured world. Part of the blend would be "Curly Latin kinkies, mixed with yellow Chinkies." A few days ago, the local radio station BBC Three Counties played a few lines of Melting Pot before presenter Iain Lee warned listeners: "I think it might be a little bit racist now" and pulled it. The mistake we always make is assuming that today's progressive attitudes are the last word and will endure for ever. They won't. Just as we winced at Melting Pot, so our grandchildren will be horrified at the things people said and did back in 2015. Today's well-meaning liberals are tomorrow's figures of scorn.



JOHN Prescott's promotion to become Ed Miliband's climate-change boss reinforces my hunch that Labour is aiming to win the General Election with the votes of people who cannot remember anything that happened more than five years ago.

I EXPECTED the angry tirade from older readers at my suggestion that pensioners have never had it so good. But I was shocked by the reader who wants to see rampant inflation "so my money in the bank will earn more," even though he accepts younger people with mortgages would have to pay for it. Ah, the dignity of the elderly.

AND if pensioners don't think they've never had it so good, when was it better?

THINGS to do on a rainy day. I picked up an old, much-thumbed copy of Three Men in a Boat by Jerome K Jerome which fell open at the tale of the great German singer Herr Slossenn Boschen. It is too long to explain here but is one of the funniest anecdotes in the English language. But when you read it, because the language is so polished, you tend to assume the writer was a middle-class Londoner with a posh accent. Jerome was born in Walsall and, to his dying day, spoke with what one observer called "a Black Country snarl."

THE problem with men of God dabbling in politics is that they are so accustomed to their word being law that they don't expect people to question it. But we live in questioning times and, for those online, questioning has never been quicker and easier. So when the Church of England piously declared that no-one should earn less than the "decent" £7.85 per hour living wage it took only a few minutes to reveal that some cathedral jobs pay a measly £6.50 an hour. Blessed are the unwired for they shall not Google.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Force in Taser threats on youngsters

CHILDREN were threatened with Tasers by West Midlands Police officers on 46 occasions last year, new figures show.

The youngest was a 14-year-old boy who was armed with a hammer. Of those 46, Tasers were fired eight times in total at 10 to 17-year-olds. The West Midlands number was down from 52 in 2013.

In the vast majority of cases

around 75 per cent of Tasers are drawn from their holster as a deterrent and not actually fired.

That was the case on three occasions in the West Midlands last year when officers came up against 13-year-olds reportedly acting violently. They included a 999 call-out in Wolverhampton where a boy was threatening to stab people with a knife, whilst officers produced

tasers against another 13-year-old in Sandwell last October after he had thrown a knife at his grandmother and attacked her with a metal crutch.

Police said that while the figures could appear 'shocking,' it was important to understand them in context. Chief Superintendent Stuart Johnson, head of operations, said: "Tasers are not drawn lightly by of-

ficers – they are used where there is a risk of violence and provide an additional option to resolve situations that can arise from all sections of the public, including under-18s."

For both adults and children, the use of Tasers by the force was higher than anywhere in the country for the first six months of 2014.

The guns were fired by regional officers on 120 occasions.

# We don't want march violence repeat – MP

**A GROUP that has been compared to the English Defence League is planning a march through Bloxwich, sparking fears of a repeat of violent scenes in Walsall three years ago.**

Members of the Walsall Patriots want to hold a memorial walk in the town to mark the second anniversary of the murder of soldier Lee Rigby by Islamic extremists.

The group, which denies being linked to EDL, says on social network Facebook that EDL supporters are welcome to join the event on May 23.

Fears have been raised by local councillors and MP David Winnick that the walk could lead to some form of violence.

Councillor Shaun Fitzpatrick, of Bloxwich East, said: "Despite the pleas by Lee Rigby's family and by the Ministry of Defence for extremists not to exploit his death for political purposes, this group seems intent on doing just that and by doing so they dishonour his memory."

"When the EDL came to Walsall we saw police officers being injured, business premises attacked and 30 EDL supporters being sentenced to over 60 years for their violent offences. We don't want to see a repeat of that in Bloxwich."

Walsall North MP David Winnick also condemned the move and called on residents to boycott it.

Mr Winnick said: "The

## Report by Laura Blyth

memory of Lee Rigby and his terrible murder will always be remembered by the British people. It should therefore not be dishonoured by a few extremists who use the name of this fine soldier for their sordid political ends."

West Midlands Police confirmed that it has been made aware of a 'possible event' being planned for May 23. It added that officers had held talks with the organisers and given advice about making a formal application to the council for such an event.

An EDL protest in Walsall town centre in September 2012 resulted in ugly scenes as the violence which forced businesses to close and bus and taxis services to be suspended.

More than 500 EDL supporters descended on Leicester Street with hundreds of people also joining a counter protest by the Unite Against Fascism group on the same day.

## New move for chess

A CHESS club has moved premises and will be opening at its new venue on Saturday from 10-11.30am. Bloxwich Junior Chess Club is now at Rycroft Community Hub on New Forest Road, off Dartmouth Avenue, after spending the last three years at St James Church in Bloxwich. Organisers Ray and Eunice Dolan wished to thank Rev Roger Williams for the use of the room at the church, but there has been an increase in children wishing to learn, resulting in the need to find bigger premises. Details on the club, which is looking for members aged five to 18, can be found on 07980 101744, or email raymondolan5@gmail.com

## WI's blooming great land-



President of the WI Molly Ellis, aged 80, who helped to plant the Arboretum roses

THREE unique rose bushes have been planted in the grounds of Walsall Arboretum to mark the centenary of the Women's Institute (WI). The plants have been unveiled next to the Sons of Rest building by the Park Hall branch of the WI.

The group has been going for 40 years but the WI nationally is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2015. Inspiration, the name of the exclusive rose, is a Hybrid Tea and produces a profusion of large, well-formed blooms with a light salmon orange and

yellow colour. Barbara James, secretary of Park Hall WI who planted the roses alongside president Molly Ellis, said: "This is a very important year for the WI."

"We thought by planting these roses it would be a nice way to mark the centenary."

Park Hall WI has 50 active members and a number were at the rose planting ceremony last Thursday.

Across the country, WI branches have been hosting various events to mark the organisation's 100th anniversary.

# Hope over careers of young by website

A SOCIAL media website has teamed up with a housing provider to launch the careers of young people.

Walsall Housing Group is working with Slenky, which connects organisations with young people looking for work.

Through Slenky young people get opportunities ranging from work experience placements, internships and apprenticeships.

The move means the Midlands becomes the first 'geographic hub' on Slenky. Bosses say this will ensure young people across the area, and in particular those living in social housing, will get a chance of work with firms such as Sky, Sony, Microsoft and others.

Carole Wildman, WHG's corporate director, said: "For some young people, the opportunity to gain work experience is relatively easy through their parents' contacts and their school's business relationships."

"However for many customers we work with those opportunities are limited, so by making this investment and creating a regional hub we hope to open to open doors which local young people may have felt are closed to them."

"We hope to raise local aspiration and opportunity."

## Parking call by councillor

CONCERNS have been raised about parents double parking outside schools in Willenhall.

Councillor Ian Shires has now pleaded with people to be more thoughtful on the school run at New Invention Infants and Juniors at Cannock Road.

He said: "There are also those who see nothing wrong with double parking, parking across residents drives and school entrances and resorting to foul language when challenged."

"My plea is – change your attitude. Spare a thought for others and park up safely."

## Bikes gripes

A POLICE crackdown has been launched following complaints over the use of off road bikes in Bloxwich. Residents have raised concerns about anti-social behaviour along a footpath off Broad Lane. A series of operations are being carried out to tackle the issue.

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## Hundreds get set for borough triathlon

HUNDREDS of residents of all athletic abilities are poised to take part in this year's Walsall Triathlon event. The sports day will be held for the second time after successfully attracting almost 200 competitors for the first competition last summer.

This time the event held at Oak Park Leisure Centre, in Walsall Wood, will feature a shorter course for novices and a number of free places to encourage those who are new to exercise.

This year's triathlon is on July 12 and is being organised by Walsall Council with funding from Public Health Walsall.

Walsall's cabinet member for health Councillor Ian Robertson said: "Last year's event was a tremendous success and entrants told us they wanted us to stage another triathlon in 2015, so here we are.

"We are buoyed by this feedback and the many comments made about the wonderful atmosphere on the day. The shorter race is designed to be a relaxed and social event consisting of an 8 length swim, 10km cycle and 2.5km jog or walk."

To book places phone 01922 658080 or visit [www.walsall.gov.uk/walsall\\_triathlon](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/walsall_triathlon)

## Closure due to droppings

A BAKERY in Walsall has been ordered to close temporarily after mouse droppings were discovered at the premises.

Polish firm Bakery Mazowze Ltd, at Bloxwich Lane Industrial Estate, in Bloxwich Lane, was issued with a hygiene emergency prohibition notice after a visit by environmental health officers on February 25.

Walsall Council's principal environmental health officer, Neil Harris, said: "Officers carry out regular inspections throughout the borough where food is being prepared and sold."

## Mansion talk

MANSION Charlecot Park, in Warwickshire, will be the focus of the next meeting of the Walsall National Trust Association. The meeting will be at Blue Coat CE Academy, in Birmingham Road, Walsall, on March 11 at 7.30pm. For more details call 01922 452142.

# Rising oil costs see pound a litre prices go



Petrol which was being sold at under £1

RISING oil costs have pushed up prices at two Walsall petrol stations that started a price war by slashing unleaded fuel to under £1 a litre.

Bosses at the filling stations that are supplied by wholesaler Harvest Energy say the rise in the cost of oil is the sole reason for their decision.

When Ablewell service station in the town centre slashed the cost of a litre of unleaded down to just 96.4p last month trade went up by 40 per cent as a result.

The garage, in Ablewell Street, became one of the first in the West Midlands to sell

a litre of unleaded below £1 for the first time in eight years, attracting queues of motorists.

The move was soon followed by owners of the Cornwall Garage, in Wednesbury Road, Palfrey who have now also increased prices after a rise in the cost of Brent Crude, the oil markets trading standard.

Last week both premises, run by separate operators, were selling at 106.9p for unleaded and 112.9p for diesel. Ablewell's owner Velautham Sarveswaran said: "The wholesale price of oil is going up now. When we initially dropped our forecourt prices

Brent Crude was at \$46 a barrel, which allowed us to sell unleaded at 99.7p, but last Friday Brent reached \$62 and on Monday it was at \$58. So it's going up at the moment and we have to make a living and meet out overheads as well."

Mr Sarveswaran and his wife Ananthi reopened the town centre garage last August after it had been closed for about two years. Cornwall Garage owner Khalid Khan said: "We managed to keep the price at 99.7p for a couple of weeks, but the buying price has gone up really high so we've had to raise our prices too."

# Dozens at meeting to air fears over centre's future

**MORE than 100 residents turned out to a public meeting calling for a community health centre to be saved.**

They confronted Walsall Council leader Sean Coughlan and tried to convince him to keep the Broadway North Resource Centre open despite plans to sell it off. The centre is currently home to the Recovery College project for mental health patients.

## Brush up on badminton with course

RESIDENTS in Walsall looking to brush up their serves and try some sport are being urged to sign up for a new badminton course.

The eight-week coaching course is for everyone from complete novices to those looking to brush up their playing skills.

It will be held at the Oak Park Leisure Centre, in Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, from March 7. The Essentials Badminton sessions will run from 10.30 to 11.30am.

The cost is £40 and includes a new racquet.

It is being run in addition to the pay and play sessions which run at the same venue on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Places are limited and must be booked in advance on 01543 452849.

The badminton project forms part of Walsall Council's Inspiring Generations programme which is among 36 projects nationally to receive a share of £5.9 million Sport England cash to support grassroots sports activity. More details are on [www.walsall.gov.uk/inspired\\_generations](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/inspired_generations)

Park Hall Community Association is also based there.

Town hall chiefs are considering whether to put the site on the market and last month launched a consultation on the plans.

Around 700 residents have so far signed a petition calling for better health and community facilities in Park Hall and Chucky. More than 130 attended a public meeting to discuss the issue and the future of the centre, a former care home.

Paddock ward councillor Rose Martin said: "It was a fantastic turnout of about 130 residents who spoke of their disappointment that we have not got expanded health services locally, their frustration at always going to the hospital for minor appointments and they are worried about the insecurity of the community association."

"A doctor spoke about trying to cope with inadequate premises. She said the Broadway was perfect for this."

Councillor Coughlan said: "We remain in an active period of consultation. Firstly, I wish to stress that this consultation is about alternative ways or locations through which services can be delivered. There is no need or desire to reduce those services." The council's cabinet is due discuss the issue on March 18.

## Jet help for jobseekers may be stalled



Stephanie Hammond puts a notice in the window at the Darlston Jet base over its closure at King Street

A CHARITY helping jobseekers faces closing its branch in Darlston unless funding is found to save it.

Employment and training charity Steps to Work has been running for well over a decade, but will shut at the jobs, education, training (Jet) base in King Street at the end of the month due to a shortage of cash.

The charity has helped around 35,000 people get into work from branches in Darlston, Bloxwich and Walsall town centre. The branch

in King Street previously had been funded by the European Regional Development Fund, but the support has now come to an end.

It costs around £150,000 a year to run and funding bids have so far proved unsuccessful so it is facing closure on March 31. Steps to Work invested more than £35,000 itself last year to keep the branch running.

Chief operating officer James Walsh said: "If funding is not there or investment we would be more than happy

to look at it. There is a need for Darlston Jet." It offers a range of support including putting together CVs, completing job applications and how to search for work.

Although the shop will be closed to the public, the charity is continuing to bid for funds and will still pay for heating, power and security, amounting to around £12,500 a year, so that it can reopen immediately if funding is secured. Anybody who is able to help with funding can call 01922 892047.

## Lighting boost hope for Range

A HOME furnishing chain which opened last year in Willenhall has applied for permission for lighting columns in the customer car park to improve security.

The Range was opened in the former Hooty's store last April. The company has already been granted part-retrospective planning permission to build a garden centre. It is now applying for planning permission to have lighting in the customer car park and for two trolley bays.

The Range took over from Hooty's after it closed in December 2013 following 50 years of trading.

## Young students looking sharp

DANCE students from Walsall College were part of a performance of Edward Scissorhands at Birmingham Hippodrome.

Alice Cant, aged 18, Charlotte Day, 19 and Georgia Williams, 18 were part of a group that staged a six-minute dance piece on the main stage, inspired by Edward Scissorhands.

The students were given the honour after impressing judges during the auditions process, where 180 hopefuls tried out and only 22 were selected.

## No-one hurt in two car smash

A TWO-CAR smash happened in Bloxwich, with both drivers escaping without injuries.

The crash took place at the junction of Barracks Lane and Walker road, near to the Kings Head pub, on Friday at 9.45am.

West Midlands Ambulance Service attended and Bloxwich firefighters, and the male drivers, both in their 60s, suffered no injuries.

## Empty premises eatery scheme

A DERELICT shop will be transformed into a restaurant and takeaway in Walsall, creating new jobs, after plans were given the go-ahead from council planners.

The former bathroom and tile centre in Day Street will be revamped after the town centre regeneration plans were approved.

## Dryer catches fire

A TUMBLE dryer caught fire at a home in Willenhall. It caused smoke logging to the property with three people inside, who received oxygen as a precaution, at just before 11.25pm last Monday.

## ADVERTISEMENT

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

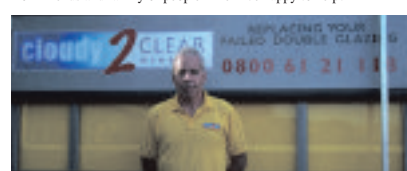
Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

A GROUP of around 200 of us stood in the driving rain on a cold night, but there was not a word of complaint.

Most of the crowd were made up of teenagers, who are not noted for being early risers, but there was not a murmur of dissent about having had to get up at 3.30 in the morning.

There is something about Auschwitz which puts our everyday moans into perspective.

Last week, the Holocaust Educational Trust took a party of youngsters from schools across the West Midlands to the notorious Nazi death camp in Poland, and it was a privilege to be able to join them.

Today, many of us think we are reasonably well informed about what went on, but it is only when you stand in the locations where so many people came about their deaths that you can possibly comprehend the enormity of it all.

The scratch marks in the gas chambers, which had been designed to look like shower blocks, where the victims of the Holocaust would have tried to cling to life as they breathed their last.

The masses of human hair, mercilessly shaven from the prisoners to make the lining of soldiers' trousers.

The clinical, Germanic efficiency, which saw every item of the victims' possessions fastidiously sorted and steam cleaned before being redistributed to new owners who were considered more in keeping with National Socialist ideals.

It is too much to try to understand how anybody's conscience would allow them to behave in this way, but everybody should visit Auschwitz at least once in their life.

□□□□□

WHEN it was reported that new laws would be coming into force this week introducing new limits for drivers taking cough medicine it seemed bizarre.

To be honest my initial thought was it was just another example of politicians and police chiefs hammering motorists for that heinous crime – that is of just driving a car.

Yes we all know these things can make you a little drowsy, but stopping people at the side of the road, asking them if they have been taking cough mixture?

"Hello, hello, hello, is that Benylin I can smell on your breath, sir?"

But to be fair to the Old Bill, it seems they are not looking for people who take these substances for medicinal purposes. Apparently, there are people who take prescription medicine in large quantities just for the enjoyment of it.

The idiocy of mankind never ceases to amaze.



The Miners Statue at Brownhills High Street's island



Historian Carl Chinn at the Hamstead Miners



The Davy Lamp miners memorial in Hednesford

# Memorials keep mining pride alive

**ADAM BURLING** takes a look at the memorials that have helped to keep mining alive despite pit closures

**THEY** are monuments to a by-gone era when thousands of men toiled for long days in collieries across the Black Country and Staffordshire.

And though the mining industry has almost died out, memorials of all shapes and sizes are keeping its heritage alive.

Two are currently being planned in Staffordshire, as residents seek a way of paying tribute to the workers who spent their working lives down the pits.

And others have already been installed in Walsall Wood, Brownhills, Great Barr and Hednesford in recent years.

As the 30th anniversary of the end of the miners' strike was marked on Tuesday, the bitter dispute between Margaret Thatcher and the National Union of Mineworkers has been at the forefront of people's minds.

Communities were torn apart by the closures, with men who once had no trouble providing for their families suddenly struggling to make ends meet. Organisers say the memorials are giving villages and towns a sense of identity again.

The 55ft high replica pit head in Walsall Wood is believed to be the biggest mining memorial in the world.

Others bear the names of former pitmen, while the Davy Lamp memorial in Hednesford is surrounded by engraved paving slabs.

And there are also tragic tales lurking behind the fond memories, as scores of men died in accidents and disasters.

The desire to create a fitting tribute has also led to a dispute in Rugeley, with plans for a statue in the town delayed by a disagreement over the location.



The mining memorial in Walsall Wood, based just off Coppice Road

It has now been confirmed that the memorial will finally be unveiled on Globe Island in September.

The significance of mining to the Black Country and Staffordshire cannot be underestimated, with the Cannock Chase coalfields once supported 48 mines and the last, Littleton, shut in 1993. Only a pit wheel remains at the site now, in the shadow of the modern design of the Littleton Green Community School – providing a stark contrast between the area's past and future.

Council chiefs commissioned artist Andy De Comyn to produce four 9ft sculpted figures for Rugeley, to commemorate 80 miners who were killed underground at Brereton and Lea Hall collieries.

And in Hednesford, the final of 3,500 bricks was laid at the Davy Lamp memorial a year ago.

With a museum also dedicated to the town's mining heritage, Hednesford has plenty of pride in the role it played in the industry.

In the early part of the 20th century there were seven pits working in the

area. But by 1975 only three collieries remained, providing employment for 5,200 men.

In December 1982 the last pit – West Cannock No.5 – known locally as the 'Tackeroo' ceased production.

Probably the most iconic of all the memorials in the Midlands is the 30ft steel-clad sculpture of a miner holding a lamp and pick axe that towers over Brownhills.

It was produced by artist John McKenna and has become a fixture on the landscape.

Mining was the main source of income for families in Brownhills until the last pit closed in the 1950s.

Brownhills was a hub of the industry, with at least 10 working pits there at its height.

The deaths of 144 men looms large over the history of Hamstead Colliery in Great Barr, where the memorial features an original coal tub on rails mounted on a brick plinth.

The worst accident was in March 1908 when a fire broke out in the pit, and though 250 men escaped, 25 perished – along with John Welsby, who was hailed a hero as he tried to save the others.

He was awarded an Edward VII medal and a local road, Welsby Avenue, was named after him.

For 100 years there was no visible memorial to the men who died, and the colliery as a whole.

But the Hamstead Miners Memorial Trust was set up in 2002 with the task of raising the necessary cash.

A replica of winding gear from the Walsall Wood colliery that stood close to the site, it was a part of a £40,000 project that also included sculptures of miners.

And it has attracted interest across the globe – achieving exactly what Mr Perry set out to do.

He said he wanted to create something to make people talk about the miners for generations to come. And it proves the links with our past are showing no signs of breaking.

## WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

£67,000. That's a lot of money to get every year, isn't it? OK, it's not the salary Wayne Rooney would even bother to lace up his boots for. But it's still not a bad whack.

MPs have argued the toss over second jobs and whether or not they should be allowed to do them. It all seemed to stem from the sting on former Foreign Secretaries Sir Malcolm Rifkind and Jack Straw over 'cash for access'.

Labour will ban all its MPs from second jobs. Is that really necessary? What Sir Malcolm and Mr Straw are accused of is using their positions as MPs in return for money. Both deny any wrongdoing. And that's rather a far cry from what our MPs in the West Midlands do.

Aside from a few hundred quid here and there for appearances on TV and radio programmes, those who make money on the side do it in the professions they held before they became MPs.

Stone MP Sir Bill Cash, for example, made a tidy £25,000 doing 70 hours work as a solicitor. Stafford's Jeremy Lefroy made considerably less doing a few more hours in the African coffee, cocoa and management services company of which he is a director.

### Property

Some MPs have a few shares. Others rent out a property here and there. It's not exactly the 2009 expenses scandal is it? But we know about it because the rules require them to declare all this in the Register of Members' Interests.

Ultimately MPs have to make sure they do their duty and serve their constituents. But is it any worse doing a bit of work here and there when Parliament's in recess when compared with being a minister? After all, those MPs carrying the red boxes and getting driven around in the Jaguars still have constituencies just like the backbenchers.

There's another reason, too, that I'd rather see people like Sir Bill and Mr Lefroy keep their hand in with their businesses. For a start it means they keep up their experience outside of the Westminster bubble.

There are enough MPs as it is who have been career politicians – going from university to some form of advisory role and then on to a candidacy – without limiting even further the things they can do. And with a General Election looming, if an MP in a marginal seat severed all ties with their old business I wouldn't think they were dedicated, I'd think they were mad.

I'm going into self-imposed exile as the third series of the American version of House of Cards has been made available on Netflix. So I'm going to forget about the scheming in the Commons by watching the scheming in the White House instead.

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# TV revolution, but fans come first

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The interests of the supporter who goes through the turnstiles are critical to the

future of football not the home viewers. Shifting regular fixtures and kick-off times, sometimes at short notice is not good for fans. With the huge £5.14bn gained by the Premier League for broadcasting rights, which clearly reflects the demand for football, both broadcasters and Premier League must seriously reflect on how best to support the fans who go through the stadium turnstiles, not just the armchair followers.

The live atmosphere at a game cannot be matched. Fans first is the only way.

COUNCILLOR D JAMES, Walsall

## Staffords event for St George

I WOULD like to invite all members of the Staffordshire Regimental Association, their friends, families, any former Stafford and our new Mercian Regimental family to the St George's Day celebrations taking place in Tamworth on Saturday April 25.

Every year we hold a free St Georges Day event which features a host of activities for all the family including The Grand Medieval Joust!

We will be hosting the promotion ceremony of the Staffordshire Regiment mascot, Cpl Watchman V, in the Castle Grounds. We anticipate the ceremony will take place on the Lower Lawn of the Castle Grounds at around 11.50 am.

As a newspaper covering a huge area that recruited soldiers to the Staffordshire Regiment (Staffordshire and the Black Country) and with strong links to the history of the Staffordshire Regiment, I know there will be many Stafford's and their families reading this letters page.

**ROBERT PRITCHARD**  
Deputy Leader of Tamworth Borough Council

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Walsall Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### E-MAIL

Walsall.chron  
@expressandstar.co.uk

## Cuts all around, but still pay rise for MPs

IN the news, all I seem to hear is that in England, the NHS, education, road conditions, cutting the number of police and many other things are due to a lack of funding.

The other topic we seem to have to endure is the Scots going on that they want independence but failed to get enough votes, they want set tax rates, and so on. I get fed up having to hear this all the while.

I heard mention on a programme about the 'Barnett Formula', and looked it up to find this was introduced in 1978 as a short-term measure.

But it is still with us as a means of topping up funding in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales in accordance with their popula-

tion, and also England at a lower rate.

Every person in each country gets funding - Northern Ireland £10,676; Scotland £10,152; Wales £9,709; England £8,529.

Strange that in England it seems the NHS is always short of funds and we have to pay prescription charges if you are under 60, there are not enough schools and if they want to go to university our kids have to pay.

The state of the roads with potholes are rarely well repaired as council funding is being cut.

The police will with less officers have to do the best they can, but I am sure the PM and MPs get a nice 11 per cent rise.

**G COLLINS**  
Willenhall

## Cancer now 50/50 threat

RECENT published statistics reveal that one in two people are now expected to contract a form of cancer during their lifetime, compared to one in four a generation ago. Doubling the incidence of this dreadful disease has occurred despite dramatic decrease in the number of smokers.

Information provided by London's Harefield Hospital, stated that transplants of lungs from smokers, over a five year period, showed no difference in outcome between them and donated organs from non-smokers.

This data proves that smoking does not inevitably cause damage to these organs. Life expectancy now extends into the 90s and beyond, among those who lived in the era when the majority smoked, in pubs, on buses, cinemas, dance halls, and in the workplace.

**A V HARRISON**  
Walsall

## Katie within her rights

A LOT of comments regarding Ms Price (AKA Jordan) have been published in newspapers as to why she doesn't fund her son's trips to school from her own pocket given that she's a millionaire but all she's doing is making a legitimate claim from the system.

If as some people deem this to be wrong, let's go the whole hog and apply what they want to the millionaire MPs who claim all and sundry because the system allows them to. Too many people never look at the bigger picture.

**J MARSHALL**  
Darlaston

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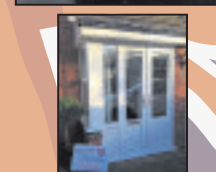
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# Daniel goes to Hollywood to fulfil acting dream

**AN actor from Walsall secured a starring role in a Hollywood film while on a month-long stay in California.**

Daniel Blacker used his connections to get on the 20-minute drama called *How to Be Lonely and Depressed*.

It was screened at the world renowned Sundance Film Festival in the state of Utah.

The 28-year-old had been on holiday with family in Florida weeks before, when he arranged to visit acting friends in Los Angeles.

The film he stars in looks back at the past years in the life of the main character Neil.

Mr Blacker plays his colleague and nemesis, Lee.

Mr Blacker, who is a former Great Wyrley High School pupil, had been living in London for the past eight years but recently moved back to Walsall.

### Daunting

He said: "I had always wanted to go to LA to act and it just happened to fall into place after our family trip to Florida at Christmas.

"I have a few friends in LA who are actors, and was able to stay with one of them.

"It was very daunting at first being a new and big city but one day, on a warm Sunday morning in Chinatown, LA, I found myself with a film crew, doing the one thing I love most in the world - acting.

"And this was purely through networking and mixing with friends of friends that are actors.

"It still hasn't sunk in, the trip has changed my life. It gave me such a boost and made me believe that anything is possible."

During his short stay in America,



Living his dream, at the Hollywood



Mitch Yapko, right, and Scott Bahler



Part of the film Daniel appeared in



Daniel now hopes for a film career

Mr Blacker met up with the writer Francis Hamit and has arranged a meeting with director Michael Donahue for a second time, who wants him to audition for the part in the film.

He said: "I'm planning to go back out to LA in April to arrange meetings with managers and agents.

"My plan to live and work out there now seems closer than ever."

Mr Blacker has appeared in a number of different shows throughout his career including *Hollyoaks*, *Skins*, and a theatre production of George's *Marvellous Medicine*, where he played George.

### ADVERTISEMENT

A CHAMPION for denture wearers, Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng) has spent more than ten years campaigning to "break the taboo over false teeth and prove that high-quality dentures can indeed be nothing short of life-changing."

Evangelical about what new-generation denture prescriptions can achieve, he says the palette of solutions to deliver a more youthful, engaging smile has never been so great, with traditional, high-quality handmade-on-the-premises prosthetics; suction diaphragm dentures; and implant-retained over-dentures.

"People have come to us with ill-fitting teeth, sunken cheeks and

pinched lips and we have been privileged to transform their looks, providing teeth that not only are aesthetically pleasing and hugely functional, but also successfully support facial structures just like their real teeth once did. It can take years off people."

Can dentures ever be glamorous? "Emphatically, yes," adds Steven.

Strident advances in technology, improved materials and revised clinical procedures are all helping "to drive the denture revolution forward and indeed introduce a real sense of natural-looking glamour to what can be accomplished," he says.

**Revolution**  
*in denture provision*

# Suction solution *is this the answer for you?*

A CUTTING-EDGE development that helps to resolve the stability problems faced by thousands of denture wearers is being offered by the Denture Clinic.

Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC108353, who heads the teams at his North Street practice in Dudley, and other clinics across the region, says the invention has the potential to resolve all-too-common denture stability issues.

Prosthetics are held in place by tiny valve-operated suction devices which are built into the prescription. A clever diaphragm principle, triggered by bite pressure on patients' gums, creates a 'sucking' vacuum between the soft-tissue mouth lining and the prosthetic.

Steven, whose clinics attracts patients from as far as Spain, the Isle of Skye and the Isle of Anglesey, says: "In recent times we have seen, what I can describe only as strident clinical steps forward, with implant-retained over-dentures, 'teeth-in-a-day' implant procedures and suction solution dentures, all coming into main-stream dentistry.

"We also have clever injection moulding



The Ultra Suction system is available for both upper and lower dentures.

technology which allows excellent fitting outcomes and our clinical solutions have never been so appealing.

"Implant dentistry as a resolve for stabilisation issues is not suitable for everyone, neither is it all patients' first preference. The Ultra Suction

prosthetics system offers a possible alternative clinical solution.

"The beauty of this affordable technology is that it can deliver for the right patient excellent denture retainer qualities without the invasive clinical procedures required for implant work."

Lower dentures can often be troublesome when stability is compromised by shrinking gums and bone erosion - all part of the natural ageing process. Ill-fitting dentures create painful friction problems on gums and not least, can be a regular source of embarrassment.

### Reduction

Steven adds: "The device can be mounted on upper or lower teeth and because of its efficiency allows us to consider a reduction in the size of the acrylic 'plate' which can improve speech and taste.

"We have always endeavoured to be on the very cusp of clinical development and this is another 'tool' in our commitment to always try to deliver outcomes greater than patient expectations."



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Getting on board  
with big contest



Ready contest at the Ryecroft Community Hub are, left, general manager Colin Knott and organiser Ray Dolan

A COMMUNITY centre will play host to a popular chess competition, which is making a comeback following a five-year absence. The Midlands Counties Chess Union's Grand Prix Congress will take place at the Ryecroft Community Hub in Walsall over March 14 and 15.

The return of the event, which will be hosted at the venue in New Forest Road for the first time, will welcome chess players from across 11 counties in the region. Five rounds will take place over the weekend under the two sections – major 160 and under, and minor 120 and under.

A total cash prize fund of £1,860 will be up for grabs including £300, £200 and £100 prizes for first, second and third in each category.

And the winner of the Grand Prix circuit will secure a free place in the British Championships 2015, which will take place in Coventry this August.

For further details on entry prices, how to enter the congress go to the MCCU website at [www.mccu.org.uk](http://www.mccu.org.uk) or email Ray Dolan at [sunshine.dolan@gmail.com](mailto:sunshine.dolan@gmail.com).

# Engineers RMD rides high with its profits

ALDRIDGE-BASED engineering firm RMD Kwikform has seen its profits rocket by 32 per cent to £26.6 million over the last year as it wins more work at home and abroad.

The boss of parent group Interserve hailed it as a 'stand-out performance', saying RMD had contributed to the overall strong growth at the construction and services business.

by Simon Penfold

Interserve as a whole racked up a 31 per cent hike in headline pre-tax profits of £117.2m in 2014.

Revenue rose 33pc to £2.9 billion, boosted by the acquisition of Initial Facilities from the Rentokil group.

But the costs of the Initial Facilities takeover reduced overall pre-tax profit by nine per cent to £61.9m.

The Berkshire-based group employs more than 1,200 people across the Black Country, including 600 maintenance and catering workers at Dudley's Russell's Hall Hospital. It has built the Jaguar Land Rover engine factory in Wolverhampton and is working on the £13.5m business school for the University of Wolverhampton.

RMD is one of a string of Interserve operations across the Midlands, including its construction headquarters in Birmingham and nearly 400 support services and engineering staff at the Intersection House office block in West Bromwich, as well as the 120 at RMD Kwikform's two sites in Aldridge.

After its £250 million takeover of office cleaners Initial Services last year, Interserve also has around 100 Initial staff working at Castlegate Park in Dudley.

A growing services workload for Interserve, which has just started looking after the BBC's premises nationwide and has recently won a string of Ministry of Justice contracts for probation and rehabilitation work, helped it score £4.1 bn of new business in 2014.



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Interior design expert Julia Kendell on hand to offer advice

## COMPETITION

# Time to home in on advice from experts

THERE will be a larger than ever pool of hands-on property specialists to inspire visitors at The National Homebuilding & Renovating Show. As the property market has strengthened over the past year, the updated National Homebuilding & Renovating Show, sponsored by Anglian Home Improvements, is returning in full force to the NEC, Birmingham from March 26-29 with a record number of more than 15 self-build, renovation and home improvement specialists. And the organisers have teamed up with the Chronicle series to give 70 readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the show. Homeowners planning to undertake a house project such as remodelling, extending, constructing a new dwelling from scratch or revamping their

existing property will find more tailored inspiration and specialist guidance to pursue their plans than ever before. Throughout the four days, visitors will have access to the latest products, services and innovations from more than 500 exhibitors, and one-to-one consultations to discuss tailor made project ideas. They will be able to attend free seminars held by experts and masterclasses, sponsored by Internorm, on topics including sustainable heating; financial and planning permission issues; eco living and architectural design. Charlie Luxton, sustainable architectural designer and presenter of More4's 'Building the Dream', and Julia Kendell, interior design expert and co-presenter of ITV's '60 Minute Makeover', will also be returning.



Plenty of stands for the crowds to see



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Send your answer, with address and phone contact, on a postcard to Homebuilding Competition, Chronicle editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Thursday, March 12. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final

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# Man assaulted partner in clash over karaoke

## Jo bristles with pride



Walsall Housing Group apprentice Jo Harrison, seen at work

YOUNG people may have a bit of a reputation for painting the town red, but two career fledglings are going against the stereotype and putting their decorating talents to the test, in order to boost community spirit.

Walsall Housing Group apprentices Dan Carley, aged 17, and 22-year-old Jo Harrison, are working as part of a team to makeover three communal rooms across the borough.

The pair are currently studying towards their maintenance operations qualification.

As part of their apprentice-

ship, which is being undertaken at WHG's specialist construction training facility, they need to be evaluated for practical skills as well as complete theory exams.

Jo said: "It's been a really good week and we've got the chance to put our skills to real use.

"It will be really great to see the end result.

"I would really recommend an apprenticeship to others, especially if you are an active person.

"I enjoy the hands-on experience and hope when the apprenticeship ends I can secure a trades job with WHG."

A MAN repeatedly punched his partner for 'embarrassing' him when she swore during a karaoke performance, a court heard.

Beau Bilboe, aged 40, from Corporation Street West, Caldmore, has been jailed for five-and-a-half months for the attack.

He assaulted his partner in the back of a taxi, claiming she had 'embarrassed' him by swearing while they performed at the karaoke evening after a day of drinking, Wolverhampton Magistrates Court heard.

Bilboe became violent when she declined his request to go back to her address at the end of the night, punching his victim 'several times' before taking her phone as he left the taxi.

He pleaded guilty to assault by beating and theft of the phone. He was also given a three year restraining order preventing him from making any contact with his partner or going within 100 yards of her property. Bilboe breached a suspended sentence that had been imposed on him when he carried out the attack.

The court heard that on the occasion which led to his suspended sentence, officers had to deploy CS gas and taser Bilboe twice before they could arrest him, while he punched kicked and bit officers trying to reprimand him directly, before a member of the public got involved to help.

The breach of his suspended sentence, combined with the taxi assault on February 19, led to Bilboe being handed a 22 week concurrent sentence by District Judge Graham Wilkinson. He said: "You chose to go out and get drunk all day knowing that you become violent under the influence.

"Within six weeks of getting a suspended sentence after you punched, kicked and bit police officers you assaulted this poor lady who had the audacity to say no to you and the audacity to embarrass you during a karaoke performance.

"You are a man whose only response to situations he doesn't agree with is to use violence." Bilboe, a recovering heroin addict, had been suffering from depression in the weeks leading up to the attack, said Patrick Currie, defending.

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# Medals of bravery are an Arctic blast to the past

**THEY were part of the Arctic Convoys which bravely travelled the ocean to get supplies the Soviet Union during World War Two.**

Now war veterans have been honoured for their exploits from the Russian embassy.

A special ceremony was held at Walsall town hall last week, which saw 22 people from around the Midlands given the Ushakov Medal.

Over four million supplies including foods and armour were delivered to the Russians from the UK between 1941-45.

Merchant ships were escorted by members of the Royal Navy who risked their lives from attacks during weeks of travel.

One of them to be honoured was Kenneth Taylor, of Beechdale, who was just 18 at the time.

The ship he was on was first targeted by a torpedo and then came under attack from a submarine, which saw 11 people killed.

The great grandfather-of-two had been in contact with Walsall North MP David Winnick who helped take up the cause to ensure that he was recognised. The 88 year-old said: "It was dangerous but you just got on with your job. You thought more about it afterwards."

Mr Winnick said: "They were very brave people and did their duty and did so recognising they were helping in a very important way in the fight against Nazi Germany."

Others to be honoured at the ceremony included great-grandfather John Kinsella, 91, of Westgate, Aldridge, and Ivor Oldbury, 89, of Broad Lane, High Heath.



Kenneth Taylor with David Winnick MP



John Kinsella, daughters Julia, Debra



The British and Russian dignitaries

Mr Kinsella said: "I am quite pleased. It is very nice to be recognised even at this late stage of my life."

"You never worried about the dangers, we did a job and we were occupied all the time."

"It got very rough out there at times."



Ivor Oldbury with daughter Debra Wall

Some medals were awarded posthumously with other veterans accompanied by family and friends.

They were greeted by Walsall Mayor, councillor Pete Smith, and presented with their medals by Sergey Fedichkin, from the Russian Federation's Embassy.

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## Saddlers boss joins panel to be quizzed



Dean Smith at Birmingham City University's Parkside building, with Sport England chief executive Jennie Price

WALSALL FC boss Dean Smith joined a panel of other leading sporting figures to be quizzed by the public at an event at Birmingham City University.

The Saddlers boss joined Warwickshire Bears cricket coach Dougie Brown, chief executive of Sport England Jennie Price and Jason Lee, a double Olympic hockey player and former coach of the Great Britain men's and women's hockey teams.

The panel explored what makes a great sporting leader, the challenges and pressures of leading a professional sport team and what businesses may be able to learn from it. More than 50 people turned up for the event at the university's Parkside Building in Curzon Street. Speaking about Wembley, the Saddlers boss said: "It's a great achievement and not many players will get the opportunity to go and play." The 43-year-old added: "Mentally, you've got to be driven."

He spoke about the importance of keeping an 'open dialogue' with bosses, motivational techniques and what sport has also learnt from businesses.

Walsall's manager added: "In our sport you are forever going and picking the brains of other businesses and finding out how they deal with people in the industries. We are all human beings and we have to empathise, be understanding to a lot of their needs."

# Overseas is key to staff increases for Manor

WALSALL Manor Hospital has revealed it will look overseas to bolster staff levels as part of a multi-million pound recruitment drive.

Health chiefs are poised to push ahead with £3.5m proposals to bring in up to 85 nurses and 35 care support workers. In a bid to fill the registered nurse positions, bosses now hope to recruit from Ireland.

They say they are being forced to look further afield due to a nursing skills shortage in the UK.

It comes after 100 extra workers have been recruited since last year as the hospital has been faced with rising numbers of patients.

The plans will also reduce the need to use temporary workers, which is expected to cost the hospital £20m this financial year.

Members of the board were recommended to approve an investment in new nurses when they met last Thursday.

Kathryn Halford, director of nursing, said: "We will continue to recruit locally but it is unlikely that this will attract sufficient trained nurses to fill the number of vacancies that we are now able to offer."

"We are therefore also looking further afield into

by Craig Hughes

Ireland to promote our recruitment opportunities for qualified nurses."

A report to the trust board adds: "This level of investment will ensure that staff are able to provide timely, high quality care to the patients within the organisation. The recruitment of staff will require a planned approach with support for staff if we recruit from overseas. It is anticipated that the overseas recruitment will be completed as soon as possible."

The trust currently has around 2,500 nurses.

Walsall Manor has been battling against rising admissions which has seen growing numbers of patients coming from Staffordshire.

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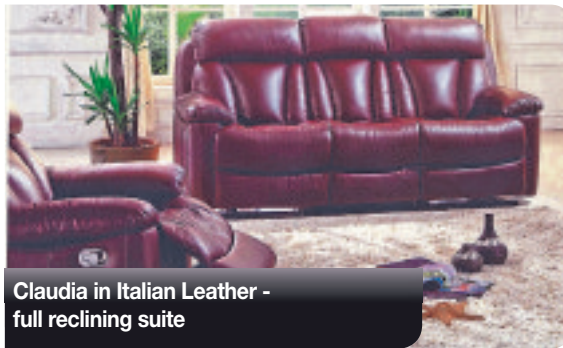
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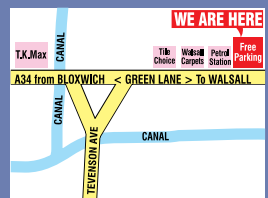
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# Focusing on city in black and white



The New Cleveland Club in All Saints by Aaron Newell



The old steel works in Horseley Fields

THE contrast between the beauty and degradation of Wolverhampton has been captured in a series of sublime black and white photographs.

These pictures show how monochrome imagery can paint the city in a whole new light.

In recent weeks amateur photographers have sent in their entries to the Star Witness online gallery at our sister paper the Express & Star and these are just some

MEMORY LANE looks at the beauty of monochrome pictures, with Pete Madeley

from the pick of the bunch. Aaron Newell, a photography student at The University of Wolverhampton, took a series of black and white shots for a course project.

He said he prefers it to colour as it allows the viewer to focus exclusively on the image.

"Colour can sometimes be a distraction," said the 22-year-old, who lives in Pendeford. "Different colours have different connota-

tions, so by stripping that away you are left with the photograph in a purer form."

Aaron said the set, which features images of his home town, aims to depict the transformation of the once great industrial powerhouse into a 'dying city'.

One of Aaron's pictures shows the former Sainsbury's building at St George's Parade, which closed last year. "For me this sums up modern Wolverhampton," he said. "It was once a busy supermarket but now it is quiet and fairly eerie. It has been in the paper a lot and people aren't really sure what's happening with the building. I tried to capture that in the picture."

## Squatters

Another image shows the old steel works in Horseley Fields, the once bustling factory that now lies derelict and is inhabited by squatters.

Aaron's stark picture shows barren wasteland stretching out ahead of the neglected building, its chimney stack rising prominently in the distance.

"There would have been so much industry here back in the day," said Aaron. "There are now 20 or 30 squatters living around there. There's sleeping bags and syringes lying around inside. I wanted to



The former Sainsbury's store in St George's Parade

capture the view from a distance to include the empty space in front of the building. To me it's quite a desperate scene and the black and white photograph really captures it in its proper light."

The New Cleveland Club, which sits opposite the former Royal Hospital site in All Saints was also captured on film as part of his project.

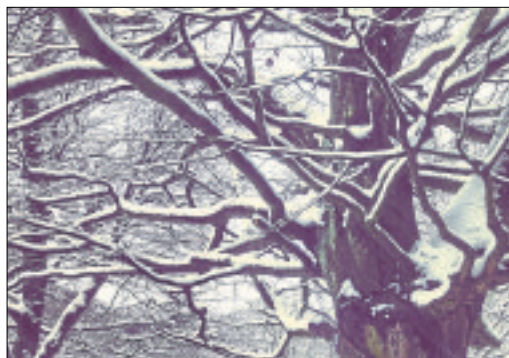
The trouble-plagued venue closed its doors years ago and nowadays only its boarded up frontage conceals a ransacked interior.

Aaron said: "I was standing by

the old Royal site when I took this. It's a really derelict part of town that won't be getting better any time soon now that Tesco have pulled out.

"The club's sign is cracked, the windows are smashed or boarded up. For me the picture sums up the state of the city."

Rebekah Parkes, from Perton, was taking a stroll by the Tetterhall pool when she captured this snow-covered tree using the camera on her iPhone. The 23-year-old said: "I liked the way the snow stopped on top of the branches but they were clear underneath."



Snow-covered tree in Tetterhall by Rebekah Parkes

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# Fury songs in Paradise are pure Gold

**Halfway To Paradise, Wolverhampton Grand**  
ROCKER Billy Fury led a life of ill health and died too young at 42. This show told of his life and career and featured his many hits. Fury in fact released more songs than the Beatles during the 1960s, but failed to top the charts, despite such big numbers as Halfway to Paradise, I'd Never Find Another You, I Will, Wondrous Place, Last Night Was Made For Love and

Jealousy – his biggest hit. For Colin Gold, the show has given him a career for nigh on two decades. Following an appearance on Stars In Their Eyes as the Liverpool-born star, Gold was later asked to join Fury's old backing band The Tornados and this show has now been touring for 18 years. Introduced via big screen by Fury's partner Lisa Voice, the narrated biopic featured archive material and black and white stage footage which helped

transport the audience to the time of Fury's rock n roll hey day. Gold has the looks and sounds of the late great rocker and many songs had the audience singing along, including the haunting It's Only Make Believe. Band members who worked with Fury throughout the 1970s, had their own tales and memories of the star, before the show ended with Fury's last track Forget Him. But who could? **Mark Shipp**

## Jason is brilliant in royal tale

**The King's Speech, Birmingham Rep**  
THERE'S a local dimension to The King's Speech, which opened at Birmingham Rep this week, in that King Edward VIII, as the Prince of Wales, had been a frequent visitor to Himley Hall. It was his abdication which propelled to the throne the stammering Bertie, the future George VI, who had never expected to be king. David Seidler's play concentrates on the relationship between Bertie and Lionel Logue, a failed Australian actor who had set himself up in Harley Street as a speech therapist. Jason Donovan was simply brilliant as the therapist bringing out the humour in the part, but clearly aware of the sensitive background of his patient. Raymond Coulthard, as Bertie, showed the vulnerable side of his character's nature, but never lost that air of royal superiority. All in all, a most engrossing piece of theatre, which runs until Saturday, March 7.

**Jerald Smith**

## REVIEWS



A scene from Birmingham Royal Ballet's Coppélia featuring Elisha Willis and Joseph Caley

## Living doll ballet a triumph of strength, elegance and energy

**Coppélia, Birmingham Hippodrome**  
JAPANESE ballerina Momoko Hirata is fast emerging as a major star at Birmingham Royal Ballet with a steely strength to go with her elegance and energy. In Coppélia she added a charming comedic quality as a mischievous living doll. She played Swanilda, the mercurial village beauty who mimics the mechanical Coppélia to confound its eccentric creator Dr Coppélius in the delightful Act II. On opening night at the Hippodrome she was well-matched by fellow principal dancer César Morales as her sweetheart Franz. The handsome Chilean also has power

allied with outstanding technique, and a lightness of touch as the lad with a roving eye who falls for the unobtainable Coppélia. The entire ensemble shone as various Eastern European villagers and mechanical creations. During the run at Birmingham the role of Swanilda was also danced by Elisha Willis, Samara Downs, Arancha Balsega and Céline Gittens. The company return to the Hippodrome for director David Bintley's Carmina burana and his latest work The King Dances from June 17 to 20 and lavish time-travelling comedy Sylvia, with music by Delibes, from June 24 to 27. **Leon Burakowski**



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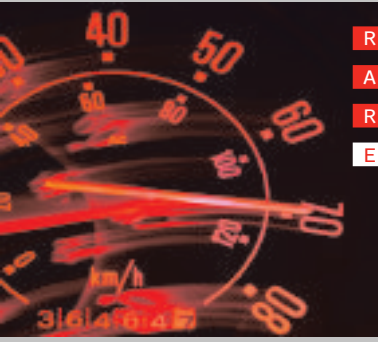
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# Smuggler hid drug in van

A MAN has been jailed for six years after being caught trying to smuggle more than £800,000 worth of cocaine into England in a lunchbox and a plastic bag.

James Reginald Bettridge, from Walsall, told Border Force officers he was delivering furniture when he arrived on a ferry at the Eastern Docks in Dover. But he was found to have stashed white powder in five tape-wrapped packages in a plastic bag and a lunchbox hidden underneath the passenger seat of his VW van. Tests of the substance proved positive for cocaine. He was coming from Calais in August last year. Officers seized the six kilogrammes of Class A drug, which had an estimated potential street value of more than £817,000.

They also found a CS gas cannister, commonly used for tear gas, in a box inside the vehicle. The 37-year-old from Wells Lane was arrested on suspicion of importing Class A drugs and an offensive weapon. At Canterbury Crown Court, Bettridge admitted the offences. Paul Morgan, director of Border Force South East and Europe, said: "Our message to those who would consider it is that it's just not worth it."



The show goes on – Aldridge Youth Theatre has launched a new cinema, with Mike Harrison and Russell Smith

# Reeling in film fans with town project

FILM fans in Aldridge are being given a treat with the launch of a new community cinema project.

The town's youth theatre has thrown open its doors to the showing of current movies, such as Grand Budapest Hotel and Oscar winner The Box Trolls, which was awarded best animated feature film.

Aldridge Cinema is the brainchild of organiser and film buffin Russell Smith, who spotted a gap in market in the area.

The 54-year-old said: "I was born and bred in Aldridge and I remember going to the old Avion Cinema when I was a child.

"I've been thinking about providing something for a long time and it's now come to fruition.

"We're not trying to compete with anyone or take away audiences from the commercial cinemas.

"I approached the youth theatre with my idea because they have a nice building with tiered seating, but it's not used much in the day time.

"The project is aimed at providing something else for the senior citizens to do in the day. We're showing modern films on a big screen with proper surround sound and free tea and coffee.

"So we set up on Facebook. We're also showing children's and family films on Saturdays, like Frozen."

Coming soon will be Saving Mr Banks, Maleficent, Philomena and Jersey Boys. Mr Smith, of Walsall Road, is assisted by a team of volunteers mainly from the Bloxwich areas. The project has also attracted support from bosses at The Light-house Cinema in Wolverhampton.

While families from as far as Burntwood, Staffordshire, have come to watch. The films are screened under license from the Film Bank. For more details visit [www.aldridgecinema.co.uk](http://www.aldridgecinema.co.uk)

# Jail for car crash thief who broke into home

A PROLIFIC burglar caught by police after crashing a stolen car into a wall has been jailed for nearly three years and banned from driving for 12 months.

Simon Plant forced his way into a property in Sheridan Street in Pleck before stealing a mobile phone, clothing, car keys and a Vauxhall Astra parked outside.

By Lisa O'Brien

But a hearing at Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how the 45-year-old was then pursued by police after they noticed him driving the vehicle at speed.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said Plant continued driving and was followed by police but he then took a junction too quickly in Pleck Road and crashed into a wall.

Plant, of Thickett Close, Pleck, ran from the scene before being caught after a short chase on foot by officers.

Mr Searle told the court that police realised the vehicle had been stolen from Sheridan Street and the items stolen during the burglary were found in the car.

When his home was later searched, items including bank cards which had been stolen in two previous burglaries were found.

The court heard that Plant had served jail terms for committing a string of other burglaries. Plant admitted burglary, aggravated vehicle taking, two charges of handling stolen goods, driving a vehicle with no insurance and driving without a licence. Mr Timothy Sapwell, mitigating, said the grandfather had been a heroin user but had a determination to remain drug free in the future. He said using drugs had only brought him loneliness and he intended to leave the area when he was released from prison.

Mr Sapwell said: "He has a last chance to turn his life around. He wants a clean start. He is now showing not only true remorse but a realistic view that he must change."

Sentencing Plant, Judge Helen Hughes said: "I will look first at the offence of burglary of a dwelling house. This property was occupied. It was committed at night. Clearly they were upset." She said the homeowners had been scared that he may return as keys to the house were also taken.

The court was told that the Vauxhall Astra which Plant had crashed was written-off. It happened on January 5. Judge Hughes added: "People have a right to feel safe in their own home."

She jailed him for 876 days for the burglary and handed him a consecutive six month sentence for the handling stolen goods charges. Plant was also disqualified from driving for 12 months.

# £2k spent at work

WORKERS in the Midlands are spending an average of £1,920 a year on 'trivial purchases' whilst at work.

A new survey reveals people spend an average of £40 a week on small purchases including coffee, breakfast and lunch, impulse buys while on their lunchbreak and after-work drinks with colleagues. When it comes to buying food on the go, 28 per cent of workers in the Midlands spend £6 to £10 on breakfast, with a further 28 per cent spending up to £10 on lunch throughout the week.

Also 22 per cent of workers buy at least five coffees from Monday to Friday, costing on average £2 each.

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# Luke's goal to make Saddlers look sharp

**SADDLERS** players will be looking as sharp off the pitch as they have been on it – when a top home grown tailor creates their bespoke suits to mark the trip to Wembley Stadium.

Walsall-born high street fashion designer Luke Roper has joined forces with Walsall Football Club to fit the team ahead of their appearance in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final on March 22 against Bristol City.

They will be wearing a single breasted blazer and slim leg trousers for Wembley this month.

Luke, aged 37, says the players will look sharp in their bespoke outfits. He added: "It's an honour to dress the lads.

"The suits are have a single breasted tailored cut blazer with slim trousers, matched with a crisp white shirt with a formal cut-away collar, they will without doubt look really sharp for the occasion.

He added: "Walsall market was the place of my first job, back in 1989, ironically selling fashion fabrics of all things, it's great to give something back to the town and it's bringing back a few fond memories for me."

"There is a real feel good factor going around, the banter is great. Good luck boys."

It is the first time that his brand Luke 1977 will provide the official clothing for an entire football squad.

But he is a popular choice for some of the biggest names in sports including Real Madrid's Gareth Bale and QPR's Rio Ferdinand who wear his outfits.

He said: "It's fantastic that Walsall have made it to the home of football and will be playing on the hallowed Wembley turf."



Walsall clothes designer Luke Roper at his latest shop in Merry Hill

## Crematorium decisions due

PLANNING applications for four separate crematoriums will be decided at the same time next month.

The sites, in Essington, Perton, Wergs and Four Crosses near Cannock, will go before planning chiefs on March 17. There are currently no crematoriums in South Staffordshire.

Councillor David Clift, chairman of Essington Parish Council, said: "This application is of major concern for two communities. Although the crematorium if approved would be built on

green belt in South Staffordshire, it's impact will be felt by two communities – Essington and the neighbouring Mossley housing estate in Walsall. The site also neighbours a large primary school. I am working closely with elected members of Walsall Council and both sets of residents from the two communities."

South Staffordshire Council leader Brian Edwards has previously said the authority would look at each scheme on its individual merits.

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# Joan's goodbye to major tours

## FOCUS ON FOLK

By Danny Farragher

CHART topping Brummie, Joan Armatrading is coming home as part of her last major tour when she will be playing Town Hall, Birmingham on Wednesday March, 25.

The good news is she is not retiring but the bad news, for those who haven't got their tickets, is the show is sold out, although it may be worth contacting the venue to see if there are any returns or cancellations.

Gretchen Peters will be on stage there on Saturday March 21, starting 8pm. Tickets are £21.50 and £26.50 plus the usual transaction fee which is £3 and charged on all bookings except when bought in person at the Town Hall or Symphony Hall Box office.

The Victoria Square venue then welcomes Irish songstress Cara Dillon who will be bringing her delicate and silken tones to the hall on Friday March, 27 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £21 plus the usual transaction fee.

### Createsures

Singer/songwriter Gren Bartley is releasing his latest album this month called Magnificent Createsures and you can see him perform at The Woodman Folk Club which meets at Ashwood Marina, Kingswinford tomorrow, March 6. Members pay £6 and non members £1 more. Doors open at 8pm and the show starts around 8.30pm.

The following week on March 13 the club welcomes banjo virtuoso, if there is such a thing, Dan Walsh. Entry is £6 for members and £1 more for non-members. Walsh also has a new



Joan Armatrading who is giving up major tours after many years on the road

album out on March 16, called Incidents and Accidents.

Traditional musician and musical arranger Nick Dow is also coming to the canal side venue on March 27, tickets are £5 for members and again £1 more for non members.

A folk singer who's star is definitely on the rise and seems to be almost everywhere is Kelly Oliver, who will be sharing the bill at the Common Folk Club with Nigel Bullock on March 19 from 8.30pm. The club meets at the Pelsall Cricket & Sports Club in Walsall.

Heading back to the Second City, Red Lion Folk Club, King's Heath welcomes one of the busiest and in-demand female folk artists, Nancy Kerr, on March 11.

Kerr is nominated for best folk singer and best album at this year's BBC Radio2 Folk Awards.

She will also be touring later on in the year with Martin Simpson and Andy Cutting on the back of a new album they have put together called Murrums. Tickets are £13 and can vary depending upon whether you are

a member and if you buy online. Doors open 7.15pm for a 7.45pm start.

You may remember her as the distinctive voice of Fairground Attraction but Eddi Reader has been carving out a solo career on the folk/acoustic circuit for many years and she is performing on March 28 at Biddulph Up in Arms, Staffs. Tickets are £22.50 and doors open at 6pm, the show starts at 8pm. Irish band, The Fureys will be at the New Alex Theatre on March 12. Tickets are £23.90 plus a £2.85 booking fee and the show starts 7.30pm.

More veterans of the folk circuit Oysterband will be at the Robin2 Bilston on Tuesday March 24. Tickets are £16 in advance or £18 on the night.

Seth Lakeman is bringing his solo show to the Slade Rooms, Broad Street, Wolverhampton on March 22. Tickets are £16.50 including booking fee and the doors open 7pm.

Scottish guitarist, Ewan McLennan will be playing Stourbridge Folk Club at Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge on March 19. Tickets are £8 in advance and £10 on the night.

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# Jail for thief who bought three cars with stolen cheques

A 'REMORSELESS' Walsall thief who bought three cars totalling more than £25,000 with stolen cheques has been jailed.

Raza Rafiq, aged 35, from Pargetter Street, was jailed for six-and-a-half years at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

The court heard how Rafiq used the cheques that had been stolen from burglaries at Moorside Gardens, Walsall and the Afro Caribbean Centre in Wolverhampton Street, Walsall in July 2013, to buy the cars.

On three separate occasions, he visited a Walsall car dealership and purchased a Ford Focus, Vauxhall Insignia and a BMW 1 series totalling more than £25,000.

Rafiq then drove off the forecourt in the newly-purchased cars only to sell them – as he admitted in a police interview – to make a quick profit. Eventually officers caught up

with him when the dealership discovered the cheques used to purchase the cars were stolen and an investigation was launched.

The hapless thief was traced after he used his own details including his Walsall address to insure the cars. And when his house was searched, the cheque books stolen from earlier burglaries were discovered.

Detective Constable Roger Smith, from Walsall's Investigation Team, said: "This was an in-depth, prolonged investigation with numerous victims made up of local businesses and innocent members of the public who fell victim to his deceit and lies."

"He has left many people out of pocket and shown no remorse for his criminal actions, the sentence can give some closure to the victims." Rafiq was found guilty on February 16 and jailed the same day.

# Blackmailer in images threat gets three years

A MAN who blackmailed a married woman into giving him more than £1,000 after they had a one-night stand has been jailed for three years. Nathan Walsh, aged 22, of New Invention, had sex with the woman and then sent her text messages saying he had naked pictures of her and would expose the affair.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that he carried on with the texted threats for more than a year, each time demanding money. Mr Timothy Harrington, prosecuting, said the woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, made about a dozen payments before going to the police to make a complaint.

He told the court that the pair had sex after drinking in 2012 and he kept nude and sexual photographs of her.

A few days later, Walsh began to send text messages to the woman asking for money and telling her about the pictures.

Mr Harrington said he made it plain that unless she paid him money he would put the photographs on the internet and tell her husband about the affair.

The woman withdrew cash from her bank account amounting to about £1,100.

Mr Harrington said: "That was money she could ill afford. The payments in total appear to be about a dozen."

Eventually, the woman went to the police and Walsh was arrested but initially denied blackmail, telling police she had agreed to lend him money.

## Denied

Mr Harrington said a victim impact statement revealed the anxiety and stress she had suffered. He said: "She found it difficult to deal with this as has her husband. "She feels they have lost trust between each other."

Walsh, of Moxhull Gardens, New Invention, initially denied blackmail, dating between July 2012 and September 2013, but pleaded guilty on the day his trial was due to start.

Mrs Satvir Aujla, mitigating, said he admitted his actions had been stupid and he had been 'young and naive'. She said: "He was too wrapped up with his own debt and the loss of his grandmother at that time."

Mrs Aujla said he had no previous convictions but Walsh feared going to prison. She told the court that he was now in a new relationship. Walsh fainted in the dock as Judge Martin Walsh handed him a three year jail term.

Judge Walsh told him that the period of time the blackmail happened over was an aggravating factor, adding: "This was an offence that persisted over a period of time with severe psychological trauma to the victim."

## Diamond dancers as couple hit 60th



**Diamond wedding of John and Irene Worrallo from Walsall**

A COUPLE who first met at a dance in Walsall are celebrating 60 years of marriage.

John and Irene Worrallo tied the knot on February 19, 1955 at the St Mary's the Mount church before heading down to London on the 'Honeymoon Express' to celebrate.

On that evening at the Mayfair Ballroom in 1951, the couple had never met before – John, who went to Edward Shelley School, walked over to Irene of Elmore Green High and asked her for a dance.

And Mrs Worrallo, 79, says she has not looked back since. She said: "The dance was on Bridge Street in Walsall and we both went with our friends and met on the night – we didn't know one another before. We got married four years later and celebrated in London at the pictures and theatre."

While Mr and Mrs Worrallo reached their landmark anniversary on the 19th, the celebrations will continue as son Mark turned 53 on the 20th and daughter Ann-Marie makes 50 on the 22nd.

Before retiring, Mr Worrallo, 81, had a number of jobs including a commercial artist, turbine operator at Walsall Power Station and storekeeper at Tipton MEB. He also spent 20 years volunteering as a magistrate on the Walsall.

Meanwhile, his wife worked in Woolworths as a computer operator, a Doctor's secretary and an OAP warden and nurse. The couple, who are also keen Rugby fans and were members of Walsall Rugby Club for 30 years, had a party with family and friends at the Longhorn Pub, Sutton Road to celebrate.

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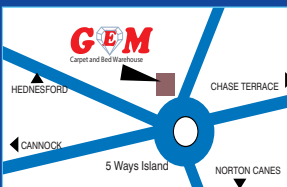
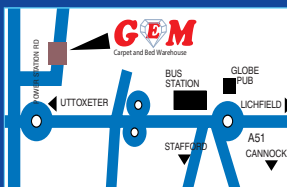
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# Farm attraction prices for admission may rise

The Chronicle Thursday, March 5, 2015

**ADMISSION prices for a popular tourist attraction will rise by up to 10 per cent under new plans.**

Sandwell Council is looking to increase the price of tickets for Sandwell Park Farm in a bid to raise money to cover the site's running costs.

Bosses say the move is vital to protect the future of the working Victorian farm in Sandwell Valley Country Park, which attracts thousands of visitors every year.

The new fees will see the cost of a day ticket rise from £2 to £2.20 and family tickets will go up from £7.50 to £8 for two adults and three children and from £6 to £6.50 for one adult and three children.

These are increases of between seven and 10 per cent.

The price of an individual six month pass will rise from £26 to £28 and the cost for 12 months will go up from £35 to £38.

The site, which is open almost every day of the year, includes a traditional farmyard, walled kitchen gardens and grade II listed buildings as well as a small museum and tea rooms.

## Income

Council deputy leader Councillor Steve Eling defended the planned increases, adding: "Many of the services we provide like Sandwell Park Farm are not statutory requirements. Under the draconian government cuts imposed on us year on year the only way we can protect these services from closure is to raise extra income to cover their running costs.

"Ideally we would not be doing this but the level of cuts is so great that it is make or break time for many services that our community values," he added.

Burial fees and charges for some leisure services will also rise under the proposals. The council is battling to meet around £60 million of cuts in the next two years.

Other increases would include a two per cent rise for hiring some halls at West Bromwich Town Hall, Wednesbury Town Hall and Smethwick Council House.

## Clocking on for visitors



**Councillor Darren Cooper and Eddie Fisher, who looks after the clock, ready for the Turret Clock Group of the Antiquarian Horological Society**

CLOCK enthusiasts will be turning back time when they descend on a Smethwick landmark after discovering a rare timepiece in the town.

Around 20 members of The Turret Clock Group of the Antiquarian Horological Society are planning a trip to study a rare clock in Smethwick Council House. The group says the clock is regarded as an important piece of history.

Group member Jonathan Ansell, from Market Drayton, says the group believes the clock to be a three-train Smith of Derby flat-bed with gravity escapement.

They say it was probably installed

when the building had just been erected, and are hopeful it remains more or less as it was when first installed.

Mr Ansell says great majority of similar clocks have been converted to electric drive. The group will be visiting Smethwick as part of a spring meeting which also takes in Birmingham's Jewellery quarter on March 21.

Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper said: "I was really impressed to go into the council house to see the wonderful workings of the clock which has been part of Smethwick's life for more than 100 years."

## Darts club arrows in on semis

Shareshill WI

AFTER welcoming everyone, President Margaret Beppard told the meeting that 17 members had enjoyed an American themed meal at the Academy Restaurant and were hoping to go back in the future for an Italian themed evening.

At the Group meeting at St Luke's Church Centre, Cannock 7.30pm on Thursday, March 12, the speaker is wildlife photographer Dr Michael Leach and the competition is members' own wildlife photograph.

The Darts club have reached the semi-final of the county competition. The next meeting of Craft Club will be from 1-4pm on March 12 at an Essington St John's Church Hall which will be its home for the rest of the year. Saturday, May 16 is the date for a 40s themed Party in the Park to celebrate VE day's 70th anniversary. The idea is to raise funds to support the village hall.

The speaker for the evening was Annemarie Wilde who talked about her journey through life in the legal trade after qualifying as a lawyer. She chose to take up a career as a solicitor rather than train to be a barrister and after working through different sections of law, she has for the last 24 years specialised as a Personal Injury Solicitor.

After Annemarie had answered members' questions, Margaret thanked her for a fascinating glimpse of her legal world. On March 19 Michelle Moore will give an insight into hypnotherapy.

## Magician to entertain at club's annual lunch



**With the new chairman Barbara Matthews, centre, are founder club members Pat Baugh, Jean Randle, Nadia Rowley, Del Johnson, Doreen McCarthy**

THE AGM was held at The Chase Golf Club at the end of a very successful year. Chairman Betty Howard-Evans called on Dorothy Robinson to say Grace and after an enjoyable lunch the minutes of the last meeting were read out and the new committee for the following year was agreed.

Betty then presented the chain of office to new chairman Barbara Matthews.

The annual lunch will be held at The Chase Golf Club on Thursday, May 7, at

## Cannock & District Ladies Probus

noon for 12.30pm. Entertainment will be provided by Chris Priest, a champion of close-up magic.

The club was founded 22 years ago and membership has grown to 65. The club is open to ladies over the age of 50.

Call 01543 505107 for more information.

## Speaker shows his Wisdom

ANNUAL subscription fees of £28 were collected at the February 19 meeting and members were advised of forthcoming events.

Pat Heeley is making final arrangements for a mid-day visit to Tutbury Castle on March 30 and will include an historic re-enactment, soup and a roll and transport, at a cost of £20.

The Federation Annual Dinner is on April 30 in the Stadium Suite at Banks's

## Pelsall 'E' TG

Stadium, at 7pm for 7.30pm. Cost is £25.

Pelsall Guild's Birthday Dinner will be held at the Beverley Hotel, Lichfield Road, Walsall, on May 21, where Pelsall Ladies Choir will provide the entertainment. 6.30pm for 7pm. £21.

Guest speaker Michael Sampson's subject was the comedian Norman Wisdom.

He gave a very detailed history of his life and career.

The competition, for a novel tea cosy was won by Ann Sale and the raffle winner was Doris Hutchinson.

Twelve members of the luncheon club met at the Longhorn, Sutton Road, Walsall, on February 17 and enjoyed a lively mealtime together. The next lunch will be on March 17 at the Irish Harp, Chester Road, Aldridge.

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# Billie and Bobby's TV adventure on the road



Bobby Singh, aged 20, with his pal Billie Causley, 25

'IT seemed like a good idea' – often the best misadventures start like this and this is exactly how two friends from the Black Country ended up on reality TV show *Coach Trip*.

Billie Causley, aged 25, from Tipton, and her friend Bobby Singh, 20, from Darlaston, are in the starting line up of the new series on Channel 4, which airs each Monday.

The programme, hosted by tour guide Brendan Sheerin, sees pairs and couples from all over the UK journey across Europe – voting each other off as they go.

Billie, who teaches dance in Wednesbury, said: "At first we applied to be one of the couples who comes in when somebody is voted off. "When we applied, though, we had a Skype interview and somebody from the production team called us and said they wanted us in the starting line-up."

## Idiots

"We had never seen the show before and at first it seemed like a great idea, now I am dreading seeing myself on TV. I bet we made complete idiots of ourselves."

Billie and Bobby, a fashion student at Birmingham City University, first met four years ago when they both worked in a sandwich shop in West Bromwich and said they have been inseparable ever since.

The programme was filmed in October, starting in Croatia, with Billie and Bobby lasting two weeks before they were voted off by the other contestants.

by Charlie Benton

"We made them do it," Billie said. "I had to get back to the UK for work so we asked everybody to vote us off."

"We made it to Italy. We would have liked to have stayed longer but two weeks was plenty of time. One of the recurring jokes was that Bobby and I were looking for an elephant, but we didn't find one."

"Everyone else on the coach was really nice, there is going to be an after show party soon and we are looking forward to seeing everyone. We ran into Brendan a few weeks ago. He is a really nice guy and was so lovely to us."

The pair have now set their sights even higher with plans to try out for more popular television programmes.

"We want to try out for *Couples Come Dine With Me* and *Big Brother* next," Billie said. "We are going to take over the world."

The new series of *Coach Trip*, featuring Billie and Bobby, starts on Monday at 5.30pm on Channel 4.

## It's gospel, with new school choir

A SCHOOL in Willenhall will be in full voice after the launch of a new gospel choir. Almost a dozen girls have already been recruited for the singing group from St Thomas More Catholic School.

The gospel group was the brainchild of PE teacher and keen gospel singer Anneke Hawkins.

She has been belting out songs of love, praise and joy after getting involved through her family's heritage in St Kitts she since she was a small child.

Ms Hawkins said: "I was brought up with this joyful, wonderful music and being unafraid to proclaim my love of God and Jesus in song and I feel it fits in perfectly with the school's Catholic ethos."

The choir has already recruited 11 girls from the years seven and eight with 12 teachers also getting involved in the initiative. Ms Hawkins said: "Absolutely everyone loves a gospel choir, the music is infectious."

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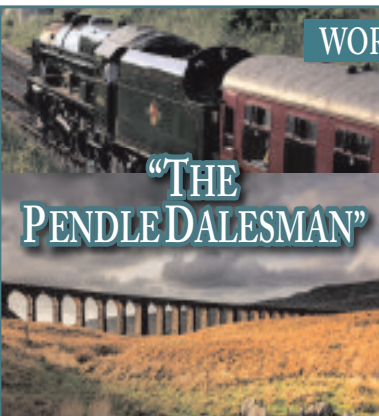
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Elisabeth Shue

## CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Channel 5, 9pm)

Daycia Fox was attending rehab in Las Vegas to treat her addiction to alcohol and drugs. Sadly she met an untimely end. However, when her body is found in the swimming pool of an abandoned house, there's more to the case than meets the eye; this is CSI after all, where nothing is ever as it seems. Following a post-mortem, detectives discover no trace of chlorine in the water in the victim's lungs, so it seems she died in the bath back at the clinic, and somebody moved her body to make it look like an accident. It begs the questions: who did it and why? Look out for Greg (Heroes) Grunberg among the regular cast, which includes his Hollow Man co-star Elisabeth Shue, and the ever reliable Ted Danson.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry Cooks. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v USA. **4.30** Final Score. **5.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **5.20** Match of the Day Live. Aston Villa v West Bromwich Albion (Kick-off 5.30pm).

**7.30** **The Voice UK.** As the battle rounds continue, the contestants aim to secure their place in the next stage of the competition. It's up to Will.i.am, Tom Jones, Rita Ora and Ricky Wilson to decide who they want to keep and eliminate, but it's not necessarily over for the losers, as the coaches have a chance to "steal" a rejected artist for their own team.

**9.30** **Casualty.** Lily tries to persuade a woman to be honest with her husband by admitting she doesn't want to continue with IVF treatment – although when the doctor's own exhaustion begins to catch up with her, it seems she is not being entirely truthful to herself. Rita helps a man change his stubborn attitude after he refuses to tell people he has a neurological disease, while Dixie is forced to give Iain a verbal warning.

**10.15** **The National Lottery Live.** Gaby Roslin is joined by comedian and actor Matt Lucas, who pushes the buttons to reveal the Lotto and Thunderball numbers.

**10.25** **BBC News: Weather.**  
**10.45** **Match of the Day.** Highlights of this weekend's only Premier League encounter, which saw Queens Park Rangers host Tottenham Hotspur at Loftus Road.

**11.15** **Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Highlights of the first two sixth-round matches, as Bradford City faced Reading at Valley Parade and Aston Villa welcomed West Bromwich Albion to Villa Park; National Lottery Update.

**11.55** **The Football League Show.** Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Derby County v Birmingham City.

**1.15** **Film:** Charlie & Boots. (2009) **2.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.55** BBC News.

## BBC2

**7.30** FA Cup Rewind: Quarter Final Classics. **8.30** Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships. **11.30** Animal Park. (R) **12.00** A Taste of Britain. **12.30** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) **12.40** Noel Coward: Talking Pictures. **1.10** **Film:** In Which We Serve. (1942) Second World War drama, starring Noel Coward. **3.00** The Great British Sewing Bee. (R) **4.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **4.30** Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships. The third day of the meeting from the O2 Arena in Prague, Czech Republic.

**7.30** **How We Got to Now with Steven Johnson.** The American science author explores the impact on the modern world of technological innovations in the sphere of lighting, investigating Thomas Edison's role in the invention and development of the electric bulb. Steven also reveals how a French scientist accidentally discovered how to create neon light, leading to a revolution in advertising and the glare of the Las Vegas strip.

**8.30** **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring and the platoon try to capture three German airmen who have landed in a lake after bailing out and intend to stay in their dinghy until nightfall. (R)

**9.00** **Mr. Josh Widdicombe.** Sue Perkins and Frank Skinner join regular panellist Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of questions about levity, levitation and lights. (R)

**9.30** **Reginald D. Hunter's Songs of the South.** The comedian concludes his road trip through the American South by exploring the musical heritage of Mississippi and Louisiana. In Memphis, he meets songwriting partners Steve Cropper and Eddie Floyd at Stax Records, before going on the trail of the origins of both delta and hill country blues in the company of musicians Seasick Steve and Cedric Burnside. Last in the series.

**10.30** **Film: Good Vibrations.** (2012) Premiere. A record shop owner in 1970s Belfast becomes a key figure in the underground punk scene during the Troubles. Fact-based drama, starring Richard Dormer and Jordie Whitaker.

**12.05** **Film:** Cross of Iron. (1977) Sam Peckinpah's Second World War drama, starring James Coburn, Maximilian Schell, James Mason and David Warner. **2.15** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. **6.10** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled! Nerts & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled! Adventure Time. **8.30** Scrambled! Horrid Henry. **8.50** Scrambled! Hulk and the Agents of Smash. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.35** Tipping Point. (R) **2.35** Doc Martin. (R) **3.35** Secrets from the Sky. (R) **4.05** Off Their Rockers. (R) **4.35** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **5.35** Regional Programme: Weather. **5.45** ITV News: Weather.

**6.00** **You've Been Framed! Favourites.** Harry Hill narrates a selection of comical clips, featuring Annette Bening and Kim Jong-il lookalikes, below-the-belt mishaps, mischief and painful-looking accidents. (R)

**7.00** **Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** The Georgie duo take control of Jeremy Kyle in I'm a Celebrity Get Out of Me Earl, and Little Ant and Dec meet Take That. Rob Brydon is this week's celebrity guest announcer.

**8.25** **Take Me Out.** Paddy McGuinness hosts an extended edition, giving the 30 single women one last chance to find the man of their dreams on the show. Hotel receptionist Leslie from Belfast, plumber Alan from Pontefract, construction worker Cole from Darlington and model Pete from Cornwall are all hoping to sweep them off their feet, and must persuade the girls to keep their lights on as a sign of approval. Paddy finds out how the couples get on in the sun, and also provides an update on last week's lovebirds. Last in the series.

**9.55** **The Jonathan Ross Show.** The host welcomes actor Damian Lewis (Homeland, Wolf Hall), and music legend Bryan Ferry, who performs in the studio.

**10.55** **ITV News:** Weather.  
**11.15** **Film: Play Misty for Me.** (1971) A DJ revives his relationship with an old flame, driving an obsessive fan mad with jealousy. Psychological thriller, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood.

**1.10** Jackpot 247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.00** How I Met Your Mother. **6.30** How I Met Your Mother. **6.55** Trans World Sport. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** Frasier. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** Rude(ish) Tube. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park and Wolverhampton.

**4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.50** Come Dine with Me. (R)

**6.15** **The Simpsons.** A romantic evening at the ice-rink leads to Homer and Marge heading for the Winter Olympics to play for a curling team, while Lisa becomes hopelessly addicted to collecting sporting memorabilia and Bart befriends Canada's equivalent of Milhouse. (R)

## Channel 4 News.

**6.40** **Crufts 2015.** Clare Balding presents highlights from the third and penultimate day of the world's largest dog show, held at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. Yesterday saw the judging of the Working and Pastoral groups, and this evening's programme moves on to the Terrier and Hound categories. There's also a special report from Noel Fitzpatrick, known for his pioneering work as seen in Channel 4 series The Supertvet.

**9.00** **Film: Salt.** (2010) A CIA agent is accused of being a sleeper assassin with a deadly purpose – to kill the Russian president during a diplomatic visit and start a third world war. She goes on the run, with her colleagues in hot pursuit – but each attempt to prove her innocence only raises more questions about her identity. Action thriller, starring Angelina Jolie and Chiwetel Ejiofor.

**11.00** **Film: Heartbreakers.** (2001) A mother and daughter con rich bachelors out of a fortune, but their plans are threatened when the daughter falls in love. Comedy, with Sigourney Weaver.

**1.20** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.10** Hollywoods. (R) **4.15** Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R) **4.30** Double Your House for the Money. (R) **5.25** Location, Location, Location. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.35** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **10.50** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **11.45** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **12.40** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **1.35** Cowboy Builders. (R) **2.35** Missing: Flight MH370 One Year On. (R) **3.35** **Film:** Monte Walsh. (1970) Western, starring Lee Marvin. **5.30** 5 News Weekend. **5.40** **Film:** Columbo: Candidate for Crime. (1973) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk.

**7.20** **NCIS.** The murder of a marine during a cruise is investigated by the agents, who discover the victim had turned his back on a life of privilege to join the military. (R)

**8.05** **NCIS.** A navy recruitment officer is murdered at a high school and the agents discover he had recently begun a relationship with a married teacher whose wife held a grudge against him. They also find out a student's father was vehemently opposed to his joining the military, and receive help from an unexpected quarter – Ducky's esteemed predecessor, Dr Magnus. (R)

**9.00** **CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** A body found in the swimming pool of an abandoned house is identified as Daycia Fox, who was attending rehab in Las Vegas to treat her addiction to alcohol and drugs. The post-mortem reveals no trace of chlorine in the water in the victim's lungs and the team concludes she died in the bath back at the clinic, with somebody moving the body to make it look like a tragic accident.

**10.00** **Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** Saliva from a tiger is discovered on a murdered model, leading the detectives on the hunt for a former people trafficker who is now involved in the exotic animal trade. (R)

**10.55** **Law & Order.** An investigation into a hit-and-run leads to a property scam, but the team's undercover work takes a surprising twist that pits McCoy against the US Attorney's office. Previously seen on SUSU.

**11.50** **True Crimes: The First 72 Hours.** Winnipeg police are baffled by a bank robber who does not fit the usual profile of a thief. (R)

**12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** 10,000 BC. (R) **4.00** Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole. (R) **4.50** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Great TV Mistakes **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **9.30** **Film:** Adventureland (2009) **11.10** Family Guy **1.00** Uncle **1.30** Russell Howard's Good News **2.00** South Side Story **2.30** Sexy Beasts **4.00** Close

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** The Secret Life of Elephants **8.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **9.00** Hostages **10.45** Pompeii: The Mystery of the People Frozen in Time **11.45** TOTP2: 80s Spectacular **12.45** Charlie Brooker's Weekly Wipe **1.15** Top of the Pops: 1980 **1.50** The Secret Life of Elephants **2.50** Lost Kingdoms of Central America

**ITV2**  
**11.10** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **12.35** Catchphrase **1.20** **Film:** Batteries Not Included (1987) **3.25** You've Been Framed! **4.00** **Film:** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (2004) **6.15** **Film:** Mr. Bean's Holiday (2007) **8.00** **Film:** Jurassic Park III (2001) **9.55** Take Me Out – The Gossip **10.55** Ibiza Weekender **11.55** The Keith Lemon Sketch Show **12.20** Reality Bites **1.05** Crazy Beaches **1.30** Hell's Kitchen **2.15** Face Reaction **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

**ITV3**  
**11.40** The Darling Dubs **12.00** Taking New York **1.00** Mary Me **1.30** New Girl **2.30** Melissa & Joey **3.30** Baby Daddy **4.30** How I Met Your Mother **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film:** Beverly Hills Cop II (1987) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory **11.30** Rude Tube **12.35** How I Met Your Mother **1.35** The Cleveland Show **3.10** One Tree Hill **3.50** Desperate Housewives

**Film4**  
**11.00** Treasure Island (1972) **1.00** Rio (2011) **3.00** The Hunt for Red October (1990) **5.55** Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (2009) **9.00** Serenity (2005) **11.20** AVPR: Aliens vs Predator – Requiem (2007) **1.10** Predators (2010) **3.25** Close

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CHOICE



**Aidan Turner**  
**Poldark (BBC1, 9pm)**  
New series. Period drama based on the novels by Winston Graham, originally adapted into a successful 1970s TV series. In late 18th-century Cornwall, Ross Poldark joins the army to avoid charges of smuggling, leaving behind his loved one Elizabeth – and when he returns three years later, having fought in the American War of Independence, he finds his father dead, his estate in ruins and his sweetheart engaged to another man. Aidan Turner takes the title role, with Eleanor Tomlinson, Heida Reed, Warren Clarke, Mary Woodvine, Harriet Ballard, Robert Daws, Kyle Soller and Caroline Blakiston.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast. 7.45 Match of the Day.** (R) **8.20 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** (R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Sunday Politics. 12.15 BBC News. 12.25 Songs of Praise. 1.00 Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v USA. 3.35 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **4.05 Escape to the Country.** (R) **4.50 Pointless Celebrities.** (R) **5.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**  
**6.00 The Big Painting Challenge.** The amateur artists travel to Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire, the birthplace and ancestral home of Winston Churchill. Their first challenge sees them arranging a collection of personal items – from a large yellow hat to a skull – which they must capture on canvas using acrylics. This is followed by a quick 30-minute sketch of a giant chess board, ensuring that light and shadow are just as important as perspective and scale. In their last challenge to impress before the elimination, the hopefuls paint the facade of the palace, attempting to capture the drama of its stunning architecture.  
**7.00 Countryfile.** The team is in rural Cheshire, where Matt Baker joins an agricultural student working on his father's farm and Ellie Harrison discovers what life was like for Victorian apprentices.  
**8.00 Call the Midwife.** Trixie and Sister Mary Cynthia team up to support a deaf mother-to-be, while a case of morning sickness proves more serious than initially suspected. Last in the series.  
**9.00 Poldark.** New series. Period drama about a young aristocrat who returns from the battlefield to find his estate in ruins and his sweetheart engaged to another man. Aidan Turner stars.  
**10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**  
**10.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Highlights of the third match in the FA Cup sixth round, as Liverpool faced Blackburn Rovers at Anfield.  
**11.05 The Apprentice USA.** In an extended edition featuring two tasks, the teams have to promote and sell tickets to a live comedy event, and then film a 60-second advertisement for a new car safety device.  
**1.10 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.15 BBC News.**

BBC2

**6.10 The Football League Show. (R) 7.30 Gardeners' World. (R) 8.00 Countryfile. (R) 9.00 FA Cup Rewind: Sixth-Round Classics. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.30 The Great Comic Relief Bake Off. (R) 12.30 A Taste of Britain. 1.00 A Taste of Britain; Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.30 Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships. The final day of the meeting from the O2 Arena in Prague, Czech Republic. 5.35 Super-Powered Owls: Natural World. (R) **6.35 Pampidou.** The penniless aristocrat thinks he has won the lottery, but it turns out that it his butler Hove who has actually hit the jackpot. Comedy, starring Matt Lucas.  
**7.00 The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway.** The concluding episode of the documentary about the construction of the Crossrail train line linking east and west London follows the work of engineers building 10 new stations. A team battles to put together the giant jigsaw that will become a cathedral-sized station at Canary Wharf. Last in the series. (R)  
**8.00 Top Gear.** James May competes in a world rallycross race and Richard Hammond tests the new version of the Mazda MX-5. Plus, Nicholas Hoult is the Star in the Reasonably Priced Car.  
**9.00 Let's Play Darts for Comic Relief.** Gabby Logan is joined on the sofa by the celebrity players, who reflect on the highs and lows of the tournament so far and discuss the eagerly anticipated final. Then the competition reaches its climax as the two remaining famous faces and their professional partners go head to head for the title at the Lakeside Country Club in Frimley Green, Surrey. Last in the series.  
**10.05 The Revolution Will Be Televised.** First of two compilations from the first three series of the sketch show lampooning arrogance, hypocrisy and greed in public life, starring Heydon Prowse and Jolyon Rubinstein.  
**10.35 Film: The Hunter.** (2011) Premiere. Drama, starring Willem Dafoe, Frances O'Connor and Sam Neill.  
**12.10 Film: Howl.** (2010) **1.30 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) 2.25 Holly City. (R) 3.25 This is BBC Two.****

ITV

**6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.20 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Animals. (R) 7.10 Sooty. (R) 7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Ultimate Spider-Man. 8.30 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. 8.50 Scrambled!: Deadtime Stories. (R) **9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.35 ITV News: Weather. 12.40 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 1.40 River Monsters. (R) 2.40 Catchphrase. (R) 3.25 Film: The Living Daylights. (1987) James Bond adventure, starring Timothy Dalton.  
**6.00 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.15 ITV News; Weather. 6.30 The Chase: Celebrity Special.** Former England cricket captain Michael Vaughan, presenter Anna Richardson, bushcraft expert Ray Meads and Coronation Street actress Jane Danson play for charity. Last in the series.  
**7.30 Off Their Rockers.** A foul-mouthed nun runs amok, Seb gets advice on attending a naturist wedding and Dave gives a member of the public his lucky pants.  
**8.00 All Star Family Fortunes.** Former X Factor winner Sam Bailey and Loose Women panellist Jamelia team up with their families in an attempt to win a jackpot of £30,000 for charity.  
**9.00 Mr Selfridge.** Nancy begins to feel the weight of her deception over her fling with Harry, Victor and Violette take a romantic trip to the coast, and Mr Grove finds out the truth from Miss Mardie.  
**10.00 ITV News; Weather. 10.15 Bear Grylls: Mission Survive.** Tensions reach boiling point as the celebrities face their toughest challenge yet, navigating down a powerful river, building shelters, catching food and enduring a tropical storm. (R)  
**11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.** Highlights from the 17th round of fixtures, including Bath v Sale Sharks at the Recreation Ground, Exeter Chiefs v London Welsh at Sandy Park and Wasps v Saracens at Ricoh Arena.  
**12.05 The Store. 2.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.10 ITV News. (R) 3.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)******

CHANNEL 4

**6.20 How I Met Your Mother. 6.45 How I Met Your Mother. 7.10 How I Met Your Mother. 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year. (R) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.55 Film: Bride Wars. (2009) Comedy, starring Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway. 4.40 Location, Location, Location. (R) 5.40 Channel 4 News.**  
**6.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.** Jasmine Harman and Jonnie Irwin meet a man who wants to buy a place in the south-west of France, and his partner, who is nervous of taking the plunge and would prefer Devon.  
**7.00 Crufts 2015: Best in Show.** The final day concludes with the most prestigious prize of the competition – the Best in Show – as Clare Balding goes behind the scenes during the build-up, meets the participants and reports live from the NEC in Birmingham as the winner is announced. Last in the series.  
**9.00 Indian Summers.** There's much excitement in Simla as the Viceroy arrives for the first of his summer visits. Ralph is troubled when he discovers the first piece of evidence that linked Chandru Mohan to the Congress Party has gone missing. Aafin finds himself in danger when he learns there will be a search of the properties of all those who had access to the stolen item. Ian is forced to grow up quickly when he receives sad news about his uncle, while Eugene threatens to return to Chicago with Madeleine. Sarah receives information from England that sheds light on Alice's mysterious past.  
**10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts this comedy take on the quiz, with team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson joined by Jo Brand and Claudia Winkleman. Bill Bailey is in Dictionary Corner. (R)  
**11.05 Film: The Twilight Saga: New Moon. (2009) Romantic fantasy sequel, starring Kristen Stewart. 1.25 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) 2.20 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 River Cottage Veg Heroes. (R) 5.05 Location, Location, Location. (R)****

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 6.20 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Pip Ahoy! (R) 6.45 The Mr Men Show. (R) 6.55 Chloe's Closet. (R) 7.05 Only the Little White Van. 7.10 Make Way for Noddy. (R) 7.25 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 7.35 Paw Patrol. (R) 7.50 Little Princess. (R) 8.00 Wanda and the Alien. (R) 8.10 Zack and Quack. 8.25 Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) 8.35 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 8.45 Jelly Jam. (R) 9.05 LazyTown. (R) 9.30 Dora and Friends. 10.00 SpongeBob SquarePants. 10.35 The Dog Rescuers. (R) 11.00 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 12.00 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 12.55 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 1.55 Film: The Reef. (2006) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Freddie Prince Jr. 3.25 Film: Open Season 2. (2008) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Joel McHale. 4.55 Film: Mulan. (1998) Disney animated adventure, with the voices of Ming-Na and Eddie Murphy. 6.35 5 News Weekend. 6.40 Film: Hitch. (2005) A professional relationship guru, who specialises in offering advice to lonely single men, helps an unlucky-in-love accountant to woo the girl of his dreams. However, when he finds himself falling for a beautiful gossip columnist, his usual charm abandons him and he discovers his expertise counts for nothing. Romantic comedy, with Will Smith. Edited for violence and language. 9.00 Film: 21 Jump Street. (2012) Cops Schmidt and Jenko hated each other when they were at school together, but have grown up to become friends. They are forced to relive the horrors of their adolescence when their captain decides their youthful appearance makes them the perfect undercover agents to crack a high-school drug ring. Comedy inspired by the 1980s TV series, with Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. Edited for language. 11.15 Film: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story. (2004) The struggling owner of a run-down gym tries to save his business by forming a team for the US dodgeball championships. Sporting comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn. 1.05 SuperCasino. 3.10 The Gadget Show. (R) 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)**

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 The Voice UK 9.00 Russell Howard's Good News 10.00 I Survived a Zombie Apocalypse 11.00 Family Guy 12.30 I Survived a Zombie Apocalypse 1.30 Uncle 2.00 South Side Story 2.30 Sexy Beasts**  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00 The Great War 7.40 New Forest Badgers 7.50 Dancing Cranes of Sweden 8.00 Royal Television Society Huw Wheldon Memorial Lecture: Public Service Broadcasting – A House of Cards? 8.45 Wild Scotland 9.00 A Wolf Called Storm: Natural World Special. 10.00 Storyville: India's Daughter 11.00 Film: Bright Days Ahead (2013) 12.30 Boy George and Culture Club: Karma to Calamity 1.30 Nile Rodgers: The Hitmaker 2.30 The New Romantics – A Fine Romance 3.20 Sounds of the Eighties 3.50 Close**  
**ITV2**  
**11.30 Take Me Out 1.00 Take Me Out – The Gossip 2.00 You've Been Framed! 2.30 Scorpion 3.25 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 4.50 Film: The Smurfs (2011) 6.55 Film: Freaky Friday (2003) 9.00 Ibiza Weekender 10.00 The Keith Lemon Sketch Show 10.30 Film: American Pie Presents: The Naked Mile 5.45 12.00 Morn 1.30 Crazy Beaches 1.55 Life's Funniest Moments 2.15 Teleshopping (6.00) ITV2 Nightscreen**  
**ITV3**  
**11.20 Rosemary & Thyme 12.20 A Touch of Frost 2.30 Jane Eyre 4.40 Agatha Christie's Marple 6.45 Inspector Morse 9.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium 10.00 Birds of a Feather 10.30 City Lights 11.35 Film: Chaplin (1992) 2.20 Perspectives: David Suchet: People I Have Shot 3.10 Judge Judy 3.30 ITV3 Nightscreen 3.40 Emmerdale**  
**ITV4**  
**12.45 Live Darts: UK Open. 5.00 Storage Wars 6.00 The Big Fish Off 7.00 Live Darts: UK Open. 11.00 Cricket World Cup Highlights 12.00 Brian Lara: Sports Life Stories 1.00 River Monsters: Untold Stories 2.00 Hell on Wheels 2.55 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping**  
**E4**  
**12.30 Revenge 1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.30 The 100 3.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.00 The Big Bang Theory 6.30 Film: Iron Man (2008) 9.00 Troy 10.00 Rule Tube 11.05 The Big Bang Theory 11.35 Tattoos After Dark 12.35 Taking New York 1.40 2 Broke Girls 2.05 Rules of Engagement 2.50 One Tree Hill 3.30 Hollyoaks**  
**Film4**  
**11.00 Brief Encounter (1945) 1.00 Step Up 3 (2010) 3.20 Jumper (2008) 5.05 Porridge (1979) 6.55 Playing for Keeps (2012) 9.00 The Adjustment Bureau (2011) 11.05 The Fourth Kind (2009) 1.05 Kelly + Victor (2012)**

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**MONDAY**

**The Fugitive, Channel 5, 11pm**

A doctor is convicted of his wife's murder and forced to go on the run to prove his innocence – but his efforts to find the mysterious one-armed man he believes is the real killer are hampered by a tenacious US marshal. Thriller, starring Harrison Ford, an Oscar-winning Tommy Lee Jones, Sela Ward, Julianne Moore and Joe Pantoliano. (1993)

**TUESDAY**

**Hollywoodland, BBC1, 11.40pm**

Fact-based mystery focusing on the life and sudden death of actor George Reeves, famed for his role as Superman in the 1950s TV series. The story is told in flashback through the eyes of a private investigator hired by Reeves' mother to unearth the truth surrounding his mysterious fate. Starring Ben Affleck, Adrien Brody, Diane Lane and Bob Hoskins. (2006)

**WEDNESDAY**

**Shifty, BBC1, 12.25am**

London cocaine dealer Shifty finds his outlook transformed by the return of his best friend Chris after four years away. As the pair spend the day together, Shifty struggles to deal with a persistent addict and a rival with a score to settle, while at the same time confronting the bleak future he finds himself facing. Drama, starring Riz Ahmed, Daniel Mays and Jason Flemyng. (2008)



The Fugitive, Monday, Channel 5, 11pm

**FRIDAY**

**Kick-Ass, Channel 4, 10pm**

A teenage comic-book fan sets out to become a real-life superhero. His amateur crime-fighting exploits make him a media sensation, but he is soon in over his head as he encounters a sadistic gangster and a father-daughter vigilante team with a far more lethal approach to cleaning up the streets. Comic-book action comedy, with Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Chloe Grace Moretz and Nicolas Cage. (2010)

**10,000 BC, ITV, 11.40pm**

In prehistoric times, a young mammoth-hunter bravely combats ferocious creatures as he journeys across the wilderness to rescue his captive lover and her fellow villagers from brutal slave raiders. Roland Emmerich's fantasy adventure, starring Steven Strait, Camilla Belle, Cliff Curtis and Joel Virgel. (2008)

**PICK OF THE WEEK**

# Term-time is over as drama bids farewell

That's all folks – Waterloo Road is closing its doors for good. Almost a grown-up version of the much-missed Grange Hill, this drama was originally commissioned for just a handful of episodes way back in 2006, and yet here we are, saying our fond farewells just short of 10 years down the line.

But those years haven't been without drama. We've seen teachers and pupils come and go, giving show bosses the chance to tackle a range of issues affecting young people today, and there's even been a relocation amidst all that, from Rochdale to Greenock.

Original cast members Jason Merrells, Angela Griffin and Jamie Glover are long gone, but Laurie Brett, who plays Christine Mulgrew, is now one of the current cast's longest-serving members.

It's been a particularly busy couple of months for her, what with the live EastEnders episodes celebrating the soap's 30th anniversary in addition to Waterloo coming to an end, but she can

quickly bring to mind some of her most memorable scenes from the series. "Two in particular stand out for me," she explains. "Episode 13 in series 8 when Christine's ex-husband turns up and the revelations of her really dark past come out, and episode 19 of series 9 when she quite spectacularly falls off the wagon and has a meltdown at the school. Both episodes were really challenging and all-consuming but I think it's been the best work I've ever done."

Asked why she thinks the show has done so well for all these years, she says: "It's one of the few shows that a whole family including grandparents, parents and kids can find appealing enough to sit down and watch together. And it gives them an intro to then talk about really topical issues and it's very rare to find a TV programme that allows that."

Brett adds: "I will really miss Christine, I have adored playing her. In five years' time, she'll be on a gorgeous beach with George Windsor, sipping non-alcoholic cocktails."

Well... it's probably safe to say the actress won't be left twiddling her thumbs and short of work.

As the series wraps up, the school pulls out all the stops in a desperate bid to halt the merger with Havelock High, and with no Vaughan, the students take matters into their own hands and try to uncover the council's real plans, after discovering it's been less than transparent before now. But with the council and its supporters out in force to convince the community and parents that the merger is the best outcome for everyone, who will win?

Meanwhile, Marco has suspicions about Lorna's ex-husband. However, his meddling only serves to land him and Kenzie in a dangerous situation.

Speaking of Kenzie, she has a decision to make – who will finally win her heart, Scott or Justin?

Neil Pearson, Stefano Braschi, Lorna Aikman and Charlotte Beaumont are among the top-drawer cast starring alongside Laurie Brett.



Waterloo Road, Monday, BBC1, 11.15pm

## BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**

**10,000 BC**

**Channel 5, 10pm**

Not to be confused with Roland Emmerich's prehistoric namesake epic, this spin on the Big Brother formula was inevitable at some point. Take a bunch of eclectic strangers, dress them like extras from Hammer classic One Million Years BC, and film them as they attempt to survive in the wild, without Wi-Fi or take-out. In the final episode, there are just six days to go. Following Paul's departure from the experiment and Mike ill in the medic tent with possible liver damage, four people remain in camp. New leader Mel is working harder than ever in Mike's absence, and is concerned that she will be the next one to crack. Alas, things go from bad to worse when a sudden frost leaves foraging impossible.

**TUESDAY**

**MasterChef**

**BBC1, 9pm**

New series. John Torode and Gregg Wallace return to put more keen cooks to the test. The first five hopefuls begin by serving up their Calling Card, a dish that showcases their talent – and this year, it carries a prize as the judges' two favourites will sail through to the third round. Then it's new challenge the Reinvention Test, in which they create a new plate of food based on their main ingredient from the first

round, before one goes home and the rest cook dinner for a trio of former MasterChef champions.

**Nurse**

**BBC2, 10pm**

If you note Paul Whitehouse's name in a new comedy, the chances are you're going to pay a certain degree of attention – and, rest assured, you won't be disappointed here. He stars in this comedy, adapted by David Cummings and himself from their Radio 4 series of the same name, about a community psychiatric nurse on her rounds as she visits her patients in their homes. The comic explains: "Nurse is a project close to my heart, it's an opportunity to explore issues and characters at a deeper level, while trying to find humour and hope in difficult situations." Esther Coles stars as Liz, the nurse, while Whitehouse takes on roles including an agoraphobic and a soldier with post-traumatic stress disorder.

**WEDNESDAY**

**24 Hours in A&E**

**Channel 4, 9pm**

For most of us, a hard day at the office includes little more than one's email playing up and the coffee machine running out of cups. So spare a thought for the people featured in this series,

following life in a busy A&E department – where matters of life and death are a daily constant. This week, the staff help Nikki, 50, and her mum Angela, 68, after they are involved in a serious road traffic accident, leaving both of them with several complex injuries. Meanwhile, 53-year-old Ellen arrives at the unit after falling over in a shop and injuring her elbow, and seven-year-old Jack is rushed to hospital after suffering an open fracture to his arm and a blow to the head as a result of an accident at a wedding.

**THURSDAY**

**Comic Relief: Operation Health**

**BBC1, 9pm**

As part of this year's Comic Relief, Lenny Henry leads a team of celebrities on a mission to rebuild a decrepit rural health centre in Uganda. What they find are semi-derelict buildings with no running water, no electricity and an infestation of rats and other vermin. As a result, many patients are too scared to stay the night. Can Dermot O'Leary, John Bishop, Richard Hammond, Steve



Bear Grylls: Mission Survive, Friday, ITV, 9pm

Mackichan and Greg James give the centre the kiss of life it so desperately needs?

**FRIDAY**

**Comic Relief – Face the Funny**

**BBC1, 7pm**

Red Nose Day returns with an evening of entertainment to raise money for disadvantaged people in the UK and Africa, and this year the fun comes live from the London Palladium. Lenny Henry and Davina McCall kick off the first hour of laughs, which includes Rowan Atkinson in a new Mr Bean sketch. At 8pm, David Walliams joins Davina as co-host, and from 9pm, Davina and John Bishop present a brand new Little Britain sketch.

**Bear Grylls: Mission Survive**

**ITV, 9pm**

As the remaining six celebrities pass the halfway point of the 12-day mission, they are starting to toughen up, but with one suffering from mosquito bites and another requiring treatment for trench foot, life in the jungle is beginning to take its toll. Arriving at a two-mile cave system, the contestants have to eat tarantulas' legs for breakfast, before using their rope skills to navigate the tight spaces and waterfall descents ahead, keeping a lookout for snakes, bats – and their dinner, a fresh pig carcass that Bear has hidden somewhere in the cave.

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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

14 18 23 23 5 5 12 21  
14 11 10 25 1 16 2 10 18  
10 18 1 1 10 7 4 21  
5 6 21 19 11 24 21 16 8 26  
21 22 18 9 18  
20 16 21 18 6 21 19 3 19 10 14 8  
9 18  
6 18 4 22 21 3 19 5 13 21 20 1  
5 2 19 2 2 18  
16 18 14 20 21 7 9 18 7 1  
1 21 19 7 14 18 10 10  
8 21 14 1 10 3 21 7 9  
17 22 21 21 19 15 14 21

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13  
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26  
O R F S I V G X M P Q U N  
D A E Z Y C W T L J K H B

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 7. Odd description of something rough (6)
- 8. Not French apparently, but it could be (6)
- 10. At length speaks of details (7)
- 11. Admit defeat and throw it in (5)
- 12. Has wrongly won a point (4)
- 13. New bread out of its wrapping (5)
- 17. Pronounce as absolute (5)
- 18. It becomes inflamed by the lash (4)
- 22. Raffle a number, in a manner of speaking (5)
- 23. Never finishing, due to lack of time? (7)
- 24. This boat may be tied up (6)
- 25. Figure it's all round (6)

Down

- 1. Open exit (7)
- 2. He has a fish for curing (7)
- 3. Likely to snap under pressure (5)
- 4. Stories about raids (7)
- 5. Opinions wives expressed differently (5)
- 6. Be quiet with a beer or a mineral (5)
- 9. Property conveyance? (6,3)
- 14. Studio that is later converted (7)
- 15. Soaked in the deepest concoction (7)
- 16. Lead on? (7)
- 19. Choose to make a fuss over physical exercise (5)
- 20. A month in advance (5)
- 21. Large quantities out of shape (5)

1 2 3 4 5 6  
7 8 9  
10 11  
12 13 14 15 16  
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Quick Clues:

Across

- 7. Foreign (6)
- 8. Fold (6)
- 10. Full (7)
- 11. Cast (5)
- 12. Location (4)
- 13. Tranquillity (5)
- 17. Commonplace (5)
- 18. Rip (4)
- 22. Stir (5)
- 23. Sundry (7)
- 24. Comrade (6)
- 25. Hide (6)

Down

- 1. Quell (7)
- 2. Contend (7)
- 3. Tendon (5)
- 4. Introduction (7)
- 5. Swift (5)
- 6. Edge (5)
- 9. Faulty (9)
- 14. Liberty (7)
- 15. Enthusiast (7)
- 16. Give (7)
- 19. Surly (5)
- 20. Hector (5)
- 21. Cost (5)

Sudoku

5 9 8 1  
1 7 4  
6 3 2 7 1  
8 7 5 4 2  
4 6 4 1 2  
7 8 3 2

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >  
2 4 8 1 3 9 5 7 6  
6 5 9 1 7 4 2 3 1 8  
3 7 1 6 6 5 9 4 2  
5 9 7 2 1 8 4 6 3  
4 2 3 5 9 6 7 8 1  
1 8 6 4 7 3 2 5 9  
7 3 2 6 8 4 1 9 5  
8 1 5 9 2 7 6 3 4  
9 6 4 3 5 1 8 2 7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Cadet; 4 Stirrup; 8 Outfits; 9 Slice; 10 Shop; 11 Terriers; 13 Chit; 14 Knot; 16 Penchant; 17 Brag; 20 Shrug; 21 Allegro; 22 Silence; 23 Put up. Down: 1 Cross purposes; 2 Ditto; 3 Trim; 4 System; 5 Insuring; 6 Raiment; 7 Pressure group; 12 Michigan; 13 Control; 15 Innate; 18 Fight; 19 Clap. QUICK - Across: 1 Obese; 4 Benefit; 8 Trivial; 9 Clear; 10 Fate; 11 Crotchet; 13 Deep; 14 Very; 16 Impaired; 17 Idea; 20 Naive; 21 Curtail; 22 Elector; 23 Glass. Down: 1 Out of patience; 2 Exist; 3 Evil; 4 Belfry; 5 Niceties; 6 Freshly; 7 Turn the tables; 12 Sediment; 13 Deprive; 15 Fencer; 18 Drama; 19 Pig.

Quiz

- 1. What is kerosene called in the UK?
- 2. Who ranks immediately below Lord Chief Justice?
- 3. In which Australian city was Prince Charles rushed by David Kang?
- 4. How is paralysis agitans otherwise known?
- 5. Which US secret society was formed in 1866?
- 6. How is the rose bay shrub otherwise

- known?
- 7. In which religion is nirvana the attainment of perfect serenity?
- 8. Which two countries share the Pindus Mountains?
- 9. Which English writer's first novel was Crome Yellow?
- 10. Of which great orchestra was James Galway a member from 1969-75?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Jimmy Carter; 2 Tottenham Hotspur; 3 Parsifal; 4 Cribbage; 5 John Gummer; 6 F R Leavis; 7 Speed skating; 8 DNA; 9 Flamenco; 10 Southern Cross. Niner: PARCHMENT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

639 gives an animal,  
53124 gives a snake,  
23178 gives a bird.  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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## Substantial home in a sought after area

**HAVING** an abundance of character, Sunnybank in Stourbridge Road, Wolverhampton is a substantial five-bedroom detached home for sale through Home Point at £450,000.

It has a porch, entrance hall with a stained glass window, dining room with a bay window with lead detail, a sitting room with the same and a wall mounted fire, lounge with a gas fire and French doors to

the rear, ground floor bedroom, WC, large kitchen with granite working surfaces, space for a range cooker with a hood over, dishwasher, fridge, washing machine, microwave, central island with breakfast bar, wine rack, spot-lighting and French doors, a galleried landing, WC, master en suite, three further bedrooms and a further en suite, a study, bathroom, ample off road parking and front and rear gardens.

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# Stunning semi-detached is now much improved



**THIS** stunning semi-detached home in Oxley Moor Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton has been altered, restored and improved to be transformed into a fabulous family home.

It is for sale through Sanders Wright & Freeman at £220,000.

Having a fine blend of contemporary fittings and attractive period features, of particular note is the through living room with an Inglenook fireplace, an impressive re-fitted dining kitchen with a breakfast bar, a dining area, block and granite working surfaces, space for a cooking range and a pantry and a utility off and a stunning bathroom with four claw bath and shower enclosure. A driveway with double gates to the side leads to a lengthy car port providing off-road parking and to the rear is a large patio and garden. It also has an entrance hall and three bedrooms. For further information contact Sanders Wright & Freeman on 01902 575555 or visit [www.swfestateagents.co.uk](http://www.swfestateagents.co.uk)

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# Lovely Victorian home has so much to offer



A VERY spacious and attractive Victorian end of terrace four-bedroomed home in Eagle Street, Penn Fields, Wolverhampton has tremendous potential for other uses.

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It has a porch, reception hall, two living rooms, rear inner hall, cellar, breakfast kitchen with an oven, separate hob, canopy and wood-effect ceramic floor tiling, a rear lobby, ground floor bathroom, four first floor bedrooms and a shower room and a courtyard garden, kitchen gardens, a large garage, utility/store and WC. For further information contact Jackson Lile & Close on 01902 712812 or visit [www.jacksonlile-andclose.co.uk](http://www.jacksonlile-andclose.co.uk)



## Semi has extended breakfast kitchen

IN a sought-after location, this three-bedroomed semi-detached house in Belmont Road, Penn, Wolverhampton includes a superb extended kitchen/breakfast room.

It is for sale through Reeds Rains at £160,000 with no chain.

Being well presented it has an entrance hall with stairs off, lounge/dining room with bay window, patio doors and a gas fire, kitchen/breakfast room with an electric double oven, gas hob, stainless steel cooker and space for tall fridge freezer, three bedrooms and a bathroom as well as off-road parking and gardens.

For further information contact Reeds Rains on 01902 428888 or visit [www.reeds-rains.co.uk](http://www.reeds-rains.co.uk)



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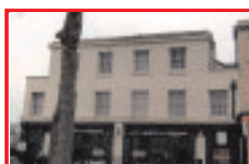
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## AUCTION - 24th MARCH 2015



### 14 LONGDON AVENUE GOLDTHORN PARK, WOLVERHAMPTON

Well presented three bedroomed Semi., through lounge, Conservatory, kitchen, utility, bathroom, Gas CH., garage, attractive rear garden. EPC: D66

**Guide: £140,000 / £145,000**

**VIEWING:**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6th & 7th  
MARCH @ 10.00 a.m.**



### 193 DIXON STREET WOLVERHAMPTON

**Investment**

Mid Terraced, hall, lounge, kitchen, rear hall, wc., three bedrooms, bathroom, Gas CH, rear garden, off-road parking EPC: C.74

**Guide: £65,000 / £70,000**

**VIEWING:**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6th & 7th  
MARCH @ 10.30 a.m.**



### 84 BELMONT ROAD PENN, WOLVERHAMPTON

Detached House in popular district, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, pantry, garden lounge, wc., three bedrooms, bathroom, Gas CH., large extended garage, garden with double gates on rear boundary. EPC: E.50

**Guide: £120,000 / £125,000**

**VIEWING:**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6th & 7th  
MARCH @ 11.00 a.m.**



### 426 PENN ROAD WOLVERHAMPTON

Large and impressive Freehold building converted to three flats -  
Flat No. 2 (First Floor) breakfast room, lounge, inner landing, bedroom 1 with en suite shower, bedroom 2, w.c. EPC: F.34  
Flat No. 3 (Second Floor) lounge / kitchen area, double bedroom, bathroom. EPC: G2  
(NOTE: Ground Floor Flat No. 1 - in separate ownership and not included in sale).

**Guide: £70,000 / £80,000**

**VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6th  
& 7th MARCH @ 11.15 a.m.**



### 19 MILL LANE, TETTENHALL WOOD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Excellent location with open land to rear Spacious Semi, lounge, dining area, kitchen, pantry, three bedrooms, bathroom, Gas CH., garage & off-road parking, enclosed rear garden. EPC: C.73

**Guide: £150,000 / £155,000**

**VIEWING:**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6th & 7th  
MARCH @ 12.00 noon**



### 175 PENN ROAD WOLVERHAMPTON

An impressive double fronted residence in prime location. Wide hall, through lounge, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, lobby, wc and store, fine landing, three double bedrooms, bathroom. Outside: loggia, lovely gardens with wooded backdrop. EPC: G19

**Guide: £240,000 / £260,000**

**VIEWING:**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6th & 7th  
MARCH @ 12.15 p.m.**



### PARADES OF LOCK-UP GARAGES

**r/o 67 / 73 BRIDGNORTH ROAD,  
COMPTON, WOLVERHAMPTON**

Eleven (+ one derelict) in two parades

- seven currently let producing

£2,100 p.a.

Potential gross income £3,300 p.a.

**Guide: £18,000 / £23,000**



### KIDDERMINSTER

**68 BLACKWELL STREET**

Freehold Shop Premises in busy area, approx. half mile from Town Centre.

Shop unit with display window. Living Accommodation over - kitchen, lounge, bathroom,

two double bedrooms on Second Floor. EPC: TBA

**Guide: £75,000 / £85,000**

**VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT**



### 229 TRYSULL ROAD

**WOLVERHAMPTON**

**Two Building Plots**

Large site - approx. 75ft. road frontage.

Planning Permission granted to demolish bungalow and erect

Two x 4 Bedroomed Detached Houses

**Guide £180,000 / £190,000**

**VIEW FROM ROAD FRONTAGE**

## FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

(subject to conditions and prior sale)

**on TUESDAY 24th MARCH 2015 @ 6.30 p.m.**

**At the Ramada Park Hall Hotel**

**Park Drive, Goldthorn Park, Wolverhampton, WV4 5AJ**

Please Register for Catalogue

**VIEWING OF ALL LOTS AT OWN RISK**  
PLEASE NOTE: Viewings are at the times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the time schedule.

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**Walsall**  
01922 460781

**Bilston**  
01902 505974

**Old Birchills**  
Walsall



WELL APPOINTED BRAND NEW HOME - RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED & AVAILABLE TO VIEW NOW. Three bedroom semi detached property, first floor bathroom with white suite, fitted kitchen & ground floor guest WC. Early inspection advised.

OFFERS AROUND: £125,000

**Moseley Road**  
Bilston



Spacious and immaculate 3 bedroom end terrace house with no upward chain, lounge, modern breakfast kitchen, conservatory, useful side passage, shower room, double glazing and central heating, driveway and rear garden with storage shed, no upward chain.

OFFERS AROUND: £130,000

**Lichfield Road**  
Walsall



Truly delightful extended period semi-detached residence in a sought after location which benefits from Gas Central Heating, Majority UPVC double glazing and has many Original Features. Spacious family accommodation which briefly comprises: Vestibule, Reception Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Sun Room, 4 Bedrooms, En-suite shower room to Master, Study, Family Bathroom,

OFFERS AROUND: £245,000

**Pennyroyal Close**  
Walsall



This modern style semi detached property is situated in Tame Bridge whilst being available with NO CHAIN. The property features a lounge, breakfast kitchen, three bedrooms & bathroom. Energy rating F.

OFFERS AROUND: £125,000

**Burford Close**  
Walsall



Double Fronted Semi Detached residence in a popular location close to all local amenities and transport links. Spacious accommodation briefly comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom & Separate WC, Front and Rear Gardens. Call 01902 241100 No Chain

OFFERS AROUND: £104,950

**Meldon Drive**  
Bilston



Fantastic 3 bedroom flat with no upward chain and ready to move straight in, lounge, modern breakfast kitchen, modern bathroom, large loft storage, no upward chain, double glazing and central heating, call Paul Dubberley to view.

OFFERS AROUND: £70,000

**Alamein Road**  
Willenhall



2 Bedroom semi detached bungalow with no upward chain, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, double glazing and central heating, driveway and garden, call Paul Dubberley on 01902 633323 to view.

OFFERS AROUND: £95,000

**Lister Street**  
Willenhall



Traditional 2 bedroom terraced house, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen, 1st floor bathroom, central heating and double glazing, rear garden, no upward chain, call Paul Dubberley now to view. EPC - D

OFFERS AROUND: £83,000

**Martin Grove**  
Walsall



An EXECUTIVE SIX/SEVEN BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE SITUATED IN THE POPULAR VILLAGE OF GREAT WYLEY WHILST OFFERING SPACIOUS CONTEMPORARY STYLE ACCOMMODATION THROUGHOUT. Occupying a choice position within a private development the property offers excellent access to a host of local amenities & transport links.

OFFERS AROUND: £490,000

**Linnet Grove**  
Willenhall



CALL PAUL DUBBERLEY ON 01902 633323 for this Stunning detached 5 bedroom family house on the popular Coppice Farm estate, entrance porch and hallway, downstairs wc, lounge, dining room, family kitchen, conservatory, en-suite to main bedroom having a range of fitted bedroom furniture, main bathroom, garage and driveway, rear garden, central heating and double glazing. EPC - C

OFFERS AROUND: £260,000

**Lynwood Close**  
Willenhall



3 Bedroom link-detached house with no upward chain, entrance hallway, modern kitchen, lounge, modern bathroom, double glazing and central heating, front and rear gardens, driveway and garage, call Paul Dubberley now to view. EPC - D

OFFERS AROUND: £155,000

**Mill Croft**  
Bilston



3 Bedroom terraced town house with no upward chain, hallway, kitchen, downstairs wc, lounge, bathroom, double glazing, electric heating, driveway and garage, rear garden, very close to Bilston centre, call Paul Dubberley to view. EPC - E

OFFERS AROUND: £95,000

**Bridge Road**  
Walsall



AN UPPER FLOOR APARTMENT OF CONTEMPORARY STYLE WHICH OFFERS WELL PRESENTED ACCOMMODATION THROUGHOUT. The property further features two double bedrooms, good size breakfast kitchen, lounge incorporating dining area, modern bathroom & gated parking. Viewing essential to appreciate.

OFFERS AROUND: £32,500

**Farmhouse Road**  
Willenhall



IDEAL FIRST TIME BUYER OR INVESTOR Part Furnished, Two Bedroom Second Floor Flat situated in Short Heath Willenhall. Entrance Hall, Lounge Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom. UPVC Double Glazed and Gas Central Heated (where specified). Storage Shed and Communal Gardens also Shared off Road Parking. EPC - C

OFFERS AROUND: £64,000

**Cecil Street**  
Walsall



A ground floor contemporary style apartment situated in a converted school close to Walsall town centre. The property features two double bedrooms, good size lounge, kitchen with appliances & modern shower room. Allocated parking space. Viewing essential.

OFFERS AROUND: £75,000

**Drayton Street**  
Walsall



BLOCK VIEWING FRIDAY 6TH MARCH CALL 01922 241100 FOR DETAILS IDEAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY A 3 bedroom semi detached home being double glazed and centrally heated. The accommodation briefly comprises a reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom, enclosed low maintenance rear garden and off road parking.

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000

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# L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



## NEW INSTRUCTION



**LISTER STREET, WILLENHALL**  
Immaculate Two Bed Ground Floor Apartment. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, D/G & E/H. Outside There Is A Secure Gated Parking Space And Garage.

£89,995

## POOL HAYES



**LUCKNOW ROAD, W'HALL**  
Immaculately Presented & Extended Two Bed Semi, Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, W/C, Shower Room. D/G & C/H, Off Road Parking, Generous Garden To Rear.

£122,500

## NEW INSTRUCTION



**WALKERS FOLD, WILLENHALL**  
Well Presented Three Bed Semi. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Dining Room, Family Bathroom. D/G & G/C/H. Extensive Off Road Parking & An Enclosed Rear Garden. Great FTB!

£133,000

## NEW INSTRUCTION



**LUCKNOW ROAD, W'HALL**  
Extended Four Bed Semi. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom & En-Suite. D/G, G/C/H. Off Road Parking To The Fore & An Enclosed Garden To The Rear.

£155,000



**ST ANNES RD, WILLENHALL**  
Two Bed Mid Terraced. Comprises Of Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, First Floor Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Detached Garage, Garden. Great First Time Buy Or Buy To Let.

£74,995



**VICTORIA STREET, WILLENHALL**  
Two Bed Mid Terrace, Comprises Of Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Shower Room, First Floor Bathroom. D/G, G/C/H. Front And Rear Gardens. Great First Time Buy Or Buy To Let.

£80,000



**HORTON PLACE, DARLASTON**  
Three Bed Mid Town House. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor Bathroom, Separate W.C And First Floor Shower Room. D/G, G/C/H. Front & Rear Gardens. Off Road Parking.

£93,995



**BENTLEY WHARF, WILLENHALL**  
Well Presented Modern Two Bed Ground Floor Canal Side Apartment. Comprises Of Open Plan Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Balcony Offering Tranquil Canal Views, Bathroom, G/C/H, D/G. Outside There Are Communal Gardens & Allocated Parking.

£104,995



**WALKERS FOLD, WILLENHALL**  
Two Bed Mid Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Diner And Modern Shower Room. Outside Are Two Allocated Parking Spaces & Rear Garden.

£107,500



**THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL**  
Modern Two Bed Semi. Comprises Lounge With Open Plan Staircase, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory And Family Bathroom. D/G, G/C/H. Block Paved Driveway. Enclosed Rear Garden.

£110,000



**LODGE STREET, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bedroom Semi Detached. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Modern Fitted Kitchen & Family Bathroom. D/G & G/C/H. Driveway & Garage. Front & Rear Gardens.

£114,995



**ALBION ROAD, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Mid Terrace. Comprises Of Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom With Bath & Shower And First Floor W.C Room. D/G, G/C/H. Rear Garden.

£115,000



**SHERLOCK CLOSE, W'HALL**  
Well Presented Two Bed End Townhouse. Comprises Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Conservatory, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Parking To The Fore, Enclosed Garden To The Rear.

£119,950



**MARSHALL ROAD, W'HALL**  
Three Bed Semi Detached. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Driveway And Garden To The Fore, With A Garage To The Side, Extensive Mature Gardens To The Rear.

OIEO £120,000



**COLTHAM ROAD, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & G/C/H. Garden To Front & Rear & Off Road Parking.

£124,995



**SHEPVELL GREEN, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Semi Having Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, Gas C/H Heating, Off Road Parking, Gardens To Front And Rear.

£127,500



**BASALT CLOSE, REEDSWOOD**  
Modern Three Bed End Town House. Comprises Of Kitchen, Lounge/Diner, En-Suite To Master Bed & Bathroom, Garage, Garden To The Front With Off Road Parking & An Fully Enclosed Rear Garden.

£130,000



**MILL LANE, WILLENHALL**  
Immaculately Presented Three Bed Semi. Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Reception Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Integral Garage, Driveway & An Enclosed Rear Garden.

£130,000



**COPPICE FARM WAY, W'HALL**  
Extended Three Bed Semi. Comprises Of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room And Family Bathroom. UPVC Double Glazed And Gas Central Heated. Driveway Parking To The Fore And Enclosed Garden To Rear.

OIEO £135,000



**BALMORAL DRIVE, W'HALL**  
Immaculate Three Bed Semi. Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Reception Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Off Road Parking To The Front & Enclosed Rear Garden.

£135,000



**SCHOLARS HEATH**  
Three Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen With Dining Area & Family Bathroom. D/G & G/C/H. Off Road Parking, Garden To Rear.

£137,500



**DELAMERE RD, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Semi Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Feature Conservatory, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Tandem Garage And Driveway.

£144,950



**STOURMORE CLOSE, W'HALL**  
Three Bed Semi Detached. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Driveway Parking & A Garage To The Fore With An Enclosed Garden To Rear.

£145,000



**WELLAND GROVE, W'HALL**  
Three Bedroom Detached Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/Glazed, G/C/H. Gardens To Front & Rear. Driveway & Garage.

£149,995



**BRACKENDALE**  
Extended Five Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility Room, W.C, Sitting Room, Family Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Block Paved Driveway To Fore & An Enclosed Garden To Rear.

£155,000



**ABERFORD CL, WILLENHALL**  
Five Bed Semi Detached. Comprises Of Lounge, Spacious Kitchen, Dining Room, Family Bathroom, Separate Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage. Front & Rear Gardens.

£160,000



**COTSWOLD GROVE, W'HALL**  
Three Bed Semi, Comprises Of Entrance Hall, W.C, Spacious Lounge, Dining Area & Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H. Garden To The Fore, Driveway Leading To Garage, Enclosed Garden To Rear.

£167,995



**HIGHMOOR CLOSE, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Detached. Comprises Of Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Block Paved Driveway And Enclosed Rear Garden.

£169,995



**HUNTS LANE, WILLENHALL**  
Well Presented Extended Four Bed Semi Detached. Comprises Of Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Conservatory, Ground Floor Bedroom, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H, Off Road Parking, Generous Plot.

£170,000



**LICHFIELD ROAD, WILLENHALL**  
Two Bed Detached Bungalow Having Through Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway.

£180,000



**BUSH STREET, DARLASTON**  
Three Bed Cottage Style Detached Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Bathroom, Fitted Kitchen, Two Reception Rooms & En-Suite W.C To Master Bed, Outside Is Gated Parking, Double Garage With Office & Garden.

£195,000



**RIVERBANK RD, WILLENHALL**  
Immaculate Four Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Porch & Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Conservatory, En-Suite To Master & Family Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H, Garage, Gardens To Front & Rear.

£195,000



**RAGSTONE CLOSE, WALSALL**  
Well Presented Modern Four Bed Detached. Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen/Diner, W.C, En-Suite, DG, G/C/H, Integral Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway.

£199,995



**BLOX RD NORTH, W'HALL**  
Detached Three Bed Having Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge With Inglenook Fireplace, Separate Sitting Room, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Galliered Landing, Family Bathroom, Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating.

£275,000



**MILL LANE, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Detached Bungalow With One Bed Annex. Comprises Of Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Family Bathroom, The Annex Comprises Of Lounge, Kitchen/Diner & Bedroom With En-Suite Shower Room.

£280,000

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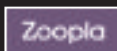
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EPC TBC



NO CHAIN

### WILLENHALL CRAB LANE

- Outstanding Impressive Detached Residence on an Extensive Plot with Superb Potential to Extend (STPP) with No Chain
- Premier Location
- Lounge • Dining room
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Refitted Shower room
- Garage and Very large Driveway



£345,000

EPC TBC



### ESSINGTON SNEYD LANE

- Exceptional Period Three Bedrooms Semi Detached On Premier Road
- Hall • Lounge • Dining Room
- Superb Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Stunning Luxury Bathroom
- Driveway, Delightful Landscaped Gardens
- Outstanding Summer House (Ideal For Gym, Office Or Studio)

£189,950



NEW

EPC TBC



### HADLEY HEATH HAWKSWELL DRIVE

- Superbly appointed modern style detached
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge • Stunning newly fitted breakfast kitchen
- Conservatory
- Newly fitted luxury bathroom
- Tandem garage
- Block paved driveway • Rear gardens
- Double glazing • Gas central heating

£159,950



NEW

EPC TBC



### KINGFISHER ESTATE HONEYBOURNE WAY

- Significantly Improved Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge • Dining Room • Conservatory
- Impressive Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Garage • Long Block Paved Driveway
- Rear Paved Gardens
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing

£150,000



NEW

EPC TBC



### WILLENHALL HODSON AVENUE

- Improved traditional semi detached property
- Convenient out-de-sac location
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge
- Impressive refitted dining kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double glazing • Gas central heating
- Block paved driveway • Pleasant rear garden

£117,000



NEW

EPC TBC



### WILLENHALL MILL LANE

- Detached 3 Bedroom Bungalow on Corner Plot
- Spacious Lounge • Kitchen • Luxury Bathroom
- Side Annex with Lounge, Dining Kitchen Bedroom & En-Suite

£280,000



### COPPICE FARM BOWNESS GROVE

- Superb 4 bedroom detached on exceptional plot
- 2 Reception • Conservatory • Kitchen, Utility
- En-suite shower room • Family bathroom
- Double glazing • Gas CH • Garage • Long driveway

£249,995

EPC D



### KINGFISHER ESTATE HONEYBOURNE WAY

- Three Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Lounge/dining room • Sitting room
- Refitted kitchen • Shower room • Double glazing
- Gas CH • Block paved driveway • Rear garden

OFFERS OVER £150,000



### BENTLEY LANGMEAD CLOSE

- Much Improved 3 Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Through Lounge / Dining Room • Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Re-Fitted Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Car Port & Driveway • Front & Rear Gardens

£135,000

EPC TBC



### NEW INVENTION RUGELEY AVENUE

- End Terrace Property • No chain
- Large Lounge, Kitchen • Sitting/Utility Room
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas CH • Gardens

OFFERS OVER £105,000



### WILLENHALL CHILTERN DRIVE

- Modern 3 Bedroom Mid Town House
- Lounge • Dining Kitchen • Conservatory
- Bathroom • Double Glazing
- Driveway • Rear Gardens

£99,950

EPC E



### WILLENHALL DARVEL ROAD

- Much improved modern 3 Bedrooms semi detached
- Lounge with dining area • Refitted kitchen
- Bathroom • Double glazing • Gas central heating
- Garage • Driveway • Front and rear gardens

OFFERS OVER £125,000



### WILLENHALL YALE ROAD

- Impressive Mid Town House
- Two bedrooms & bathroom
- Gas CH • Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

£115,000

EPC D



### BENTLEY LOCKETT CLOSE

- Modern Style 3 Bedrooms Mid Town House
- Lounge • Dining Kitchen
- Bathroom • Separate WC
- Rear Gardens • Rare Gas CH • Double Glazing

OFFERS OVER £95,000



### NEW INVENTION HILTON ROAD

- Well 3 Bedroom mid terrace • No chain
- Hall with wc • Superb refitted dining kitchen
- Lounge • Refitted shower room
- Double glazing • Gas CH • Rear garden

£95,000

EPC TBC



### WOODLANDS, SHORT HEATH WOODSIDE WAY

- Pleasantly appointed corner plot semi detached property with No Upward Chain
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Garage • Gardens
- Gas central heating • Double glazing

£134,950



NEW

EPC TBC



### WILLENHALL WELLINGTON PLACE

- Superb Well Appointed First Floor Duplex
- Maisonette
- Lounge with Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Large Double Bedroom on Second Floor
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking Spaces

£87,950



NEW

EPC D



### NEW INVENTION HIGHGROVE CLOSE

- Impressive Three Bedroom Detached Property
- Large Lounge • Dining Room • Kitchen • Utility
- Bathroom • Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing
- Garage • Gardens

£169,950



### NEW INVENTION BARMOUTH CLOSE

- Modern Style Three Bedrooms Detached
- Large Lounge • Dining Room • Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Utility • Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Garage • Gardens • No Chain

£159,995

EPC B



### ESSINGTON HOUGH WAY

- Superb First Floor Apartment • Premier Location
- Reception Hall • Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen • Two Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Allocated Parking Space

OFFERS OVER £110,000



### HADLEY HEATH HAWKSWELL DRIVE

- Modern Two Bedroom Semi Detached
- Lounge • Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Shower Room • Double Glazing
- Car Port and Long Driveway • Gardens

£109,950

EPC C



### NEW INVENTION CANNOCK ROAD

- Much Improved Modern Style Mid Town House
- Lounge • Re-Fitted Kitchen • Double Bedroom
- Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating
- Garage • Gardens • No Upward Chain

£75,000



### WILLENHALL GIPSY LANE

- Traditional 2 Bedroom mid terraced • No chain
- Lounge and dining room • Kitchen
- Ground floor bathroom • First floor shower room
- Double glazing • Gas central heating

OFFERS OVER £70,000



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westbromwich@skitts.net	0121 530 4240
wolverhampton@skitts.net	01902 788188
lettings@skitts.net	0121 520 2255
surveyors@skitts.net	0121 520 2255

EPC: E



**BLOXWICH SNEYD LANE**  
Pleasantly appointed detached  
Three bedrooms  
Gas central heating  
Majority Upvc double glazed windows



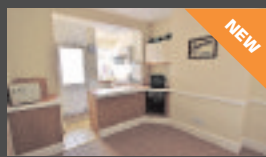
22ft through lounge/dining room  
Kitchen and downstairs w.c  
Garden to the rear  
Block paved driveway to the fore affording ample off

**£139,950**

EPC:TRC



**BLOXWICH PARK ROAD**  
Conveniently located terraced style property  
Two bedrooms  
Gas central heating  
UPVC double glazing



Dining kitchen including oven & hob  
Upstairs shower room  
Internal viewing recommended  
No upward chain

**£84,950 Offers**

EPC: F



**WALSALL VALLEY ROAD**  
• End town house style property  
• Three bedrooms  
• Spacious lounge/dining room  
• Kitchen and downstairs w.c

**£75,000**



**BLOXWICH FURNACE CLOSE**  
Semi detached property in cul-de-sac location  
Three bedrooms  
Gas central heating system  
UPVC double glazing

**£80,000**

EPC: B



**BLOXWICH BELL LANE**  
• Superbly presented 'Show Home' style four bedroom modern house offering deceptively spacious living accommodation which must be viewed internally to be fully appreciated



• En - suite shower room  
• Gas central heating and UPVC double glazed windows  
• Garage and parking to the rear

**£179,950 OFFERS**

EPC: C



**BLOXWICH BROAD LANE**  
• Much improved semi detached property  
• Extended to the rear and side elevations  
• Popular Broad Lane location  
• Four bedrooms



• Two reception rooms  
• Gas central heating  
• Bathroom and shower room  
• Detached garage

**£169,995 OFFERS**



**WALSALL BLOXWICH ROAD**  
• Deceptively spacious Victorian style terraced property in convenient location  
• Superbly presented accommodation thought suitable for first time buyers

**£90,000 OFFERS OVER**



**BLOXWICH ENVILLE CLOSE**  
• Modern style town house situated in popular 'Turnberry' development  
• Gas central heating and UPVC double glazed windows  
• Majority double glazing

**£119,950 OFFERS**

EPC: B



**BLOXWICH BASLOW ROAD**  
• Very deceptive extended traditional style four bedroom property situated in this mature and sought after residential area near to Stafford Road, Bloxwich



• Gas centrally heated  
• Upvc double glazing  
• Conservatory  
• Lovely established rear garden

**£235,000**

EPC: D



**BLOXWICH REVIVAL STREET**  
• Conveniently located semi detached property offering accommodation  
• Two bedrooms  
• Part double glazing

**£77,500**



**PELSALL PARADISE GROVE**  
• Pleasantly situated in private Cul de Sac position  
• Excellent modern detached family residence  
• Two bedrooms  
• Conservatory

**£269,950 OFFERS**



**SOLD**  
Subject to contract

**WALSALL FOSTER STREET**  
• Victorian style semi  
• Two bedrooms  
• Two reception rooms  
• Fitted Kitchen



• Garden to the rear  
• Central heating  
• Upvc double glazed windows  
• No upward chain

**£74,950 OFFERS**



**RUSHALL KING GEORGE PLACE**  
• End town house style property situated in cul de sac location  
• Two bedrooms  
• Gas central heating

**£84,950 OFFERS**



**BLOXWICH, WALSALL IRVINE ROAD**  
• Pleasant semi detached property  
• Three bedrooms  
• Two reception rooms  
• Central heating

**£109,950 OFFERS**



**BLOXWICH STANLEY STREET**  
• Town house style property situated in popular location  
• Three bedrooms and a conservatory  
• Gas central heating

**£92,500**



**BLOXWICH WETHERBY ROAD**  
• Semi detached residence situated in popular 'Turnberry Road' development  
• Three bedrooms  
• Central heating & Upvc D/glazed windows

**£159,950 OFFERS**



**SOLD**  
Subject to contract

**BLOXWICH ODELL ROAD**  
• Town house style property  
• Three bedrooms  
• Gas central heating & upvc double glazed windows  
• Two reception rooms

**£94,950 OFFERS**



**LOWER FARM MATLOCK CLOSE**  
• Well presented and well maintained family home  
• Close to local amenities  
• Three bedrooms  
• Two reception rooms

**£129,995**



• First floor bathroom with shower  
• Gas central heating and upvc double glazed windows  
• Rear garden with paved patio area & decking

**£129,995**



**BLOXWICH BROAD LANE**  
• Pleasantly appointed terraced style property in convenient location near to Bloxwich North railway station  
• Two bedrooms

**£99,950 OFFERS**



• Upstairs bathroom with shower  
• Two reception rooms  
• Fitted kitchen  
• Garden to the rear

**£99,950 OFFERS**



**WALSALL WEST BROMWICH ROAD**  
• Considerably improved Victorian style end terraced property  
• Two bedrooms  
• Two reception rooms  
• Superb fitted bathroom with roll top bath and

**£99,950 OFFERS**



**SOLD**  
Subject to contract

**BLOXWICH GLASTONBURY CRECENT**  
• Pleasant town house style property  
• Three bedrooms  
• Central heating & Upvc double glazed windows  
• Spacious full width fitted dining kitchen

**£97,500 OFFERS**



**WALSALL CHESTNUT ROAD**  
• EXCELLENT FIRST TIME BUY  
• Pleasant two bedroom semi detached property set back behind generous fore garden  
• Gas central heating

**£89,950 OFFERS**



**PELSALL OLD TOWN LANE**  
• Charming character Victorian style end terraced property conveniently situated near to Pelsall Village centre  
• Ideal first time purchase

**OFFERS OVER £125,000**



**BLOXWICH INGRAM ROAD**  
• Extended traditional style semi detached property pleasantly positioned off Field Road, Bloxwich  
• Surprisingly spacious living accommodation  
• Three bedrooms

**£139,950 OFFERS**



**BLOXWICH CENTRAL DRIVE**  
• Pleasant semi detached property  
• Gas central heating  
• Three bedrooms  
• Two reception rooms

**OFFERS OVER £100,000**



**BEECHOALE, WALSALL REMINGTON**  
• Pleasantly presented mid town house style property  
• Three bedrooms  
• Gas central heating

**OFFERS OVER £90,000**





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**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Lichfield Road, Walsall  
• Impressive Extended Four Bedroom Detached  
• Renovated to a High Specification  
• Sought After Location  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Stunning Open Plan Kitchen/Diner

£280,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Long Lane, Wolverhampton  
• Four Bedroom Detached Bungalow  
• Lounge  
• Large Open Plan Breakfast Kitchen  
• Utility/ Guest W.C.  
• Master Bedroom with En-Suite  
• Three Further Double Bedrooms

Guide Price £280,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Broad Lane, Wolverhampton  
• Four Bedroom Detached  
• Entrance Hall  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Conservatory  
• Extended Kitchen  
• Master Bedroom En-Suite

Offers in Excess of £250,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Wood Common Grange, Walsall  
• Guest Cloakroom  
• Lounge  
• Dining Room  
• Conservatory  
• Guest Cloakroom  
• Kitchen Diner  
• Utility Room

In the Region Of £240,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Cygnets Drive, Walsall  
• Modern Five Bedroom Detached  
• Sought After Development  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Guest Cloakroom  
• Utility Room  
• Refitted Kitchen

Offers in Excess of £240,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Leigh Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Newly Fitted Breakfast Kitchen  
• Study  
• Three Double Bedrooms  
• Family Bathroom with Walk-In Shower

Offers in Excess of £230,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Westfield Drive, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom Townhouse  
• Gas Central Heating  
• Double Glazing  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• Family Bathroom

In the Region Of £209,995



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Stoney Lane, Walsall  
• EXTENDED THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED  
• AMPLE OFF ROAD PARKING  
• SIDE/TANDEN GARAGE  
• TWO RECEPTION ROOMS  
• EXTENDED REFITTED KITCHEN

In the Region Of £175,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Lichfield Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom Semi-Detached  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Kitchen  
• Utility  
• Family Bathroom  
• Large Rear Garden

Offers in Excess of £168,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Newhome Way, Walsall  
• Four Bedroom Modern Link Detached  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Conservatory  
• Guest WC  
• 2nd Floor Master Bedroom & En-Suite

£150,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Pelsall Road, Walsall  
• Three bedroom Semi Detached  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• Conservatory  
• Shower Room  
• Gas Central Heating

In the Region Of £139,995



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

The Brambles, Cannock  
• Modern Town House  
• Spacious Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Modern Family Bathroom  
• Cul-de-sac Location

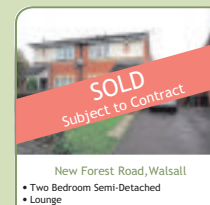
In the Region Of £130,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Daw End Lane, Walsall  
• Two Bedroom End-Terrace  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Extended Breakfast Kitchen  
• Sun Room  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Family Bathroom

In the Region Of £124,950



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

New Forest Road, Walsall  
• Two Bedroom Semi-Detached  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Breakfast Kitchen  
• Two Bedrooms  
• Recently Fitted Bathroom  
• Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region Of £120,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Lindon Road, Walsall  
• Three bedroom Semi Detached house  
• Porch  
• Lounge  
• Kitchen  
• Shower Room  
• Gas central heating

Offers in Excess of £120,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Jesson Close, Walsall  
• Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment  
• Lounge/Dining Room  
• Fitted Breakfast Kitchen with Appliances  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Family Bathroom  
• Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £114,950



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Chestnut Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom End Terrace  
• Off Road Parking  
• Porch  
• Lounge  
• Fitted Kitchen  
• Ground Floor WC

£100,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Tintern Crescent, Bloxwich  
• Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Extended Fitted Kitchen  
• Conservatory  
• Shower Room  
• Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region Of £97,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Seyvern Road, Walsall  
• Three Bedroom End-Terrace  
• Two Reception Rooms  
• Kitchen  
• Family Bathroom  
• Out-Buildings/W.C.  
• Front & Rear Gardens

Offers in Excess of £90,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Dibble Close, Willenhall  
• Three Bedroom Town House  
• Sought After Location Close to Several Primary Schools  
• Spacious Lounge  
• Kitchen/Diner  
• Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £80,000



**SOLD**  
Subject to Contract

Bridgwater Close, Walsall  
• Well Presented Two Bedroom End Terrace  
• No Upward Chain  
• Spacious Lounge  
• Refitted Kitchen/Diner  
• Two Double Bedrooms  
• Gas Central Heating

Offers in Excess of £80,000

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Wednesbury  
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Wednesfield  
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**NEW**

**Nutmeg Grove, Walsall**

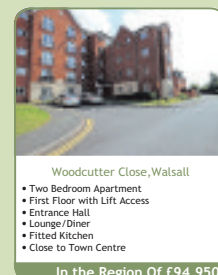
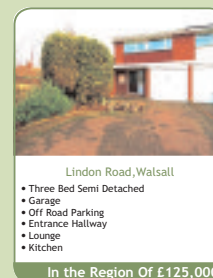
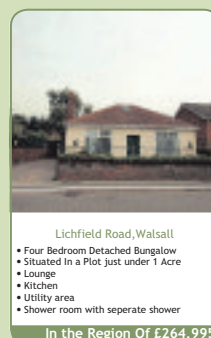
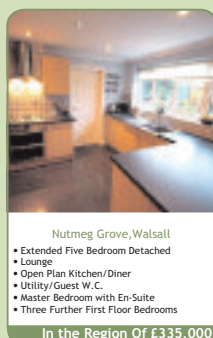
- Extended Five Bedroom Detached
- Lounge
- Open Plan Kitchen/Diner
- Utility/Guest W.C.
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Three Further First Floor Bedrooms

In the Region Of £335,000

**Walsall Road, Walsall**

- Fitted Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Sun Room with Log Burner
- Conservatory
- Several Outbuildings

In the Region Of £475,000



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- Lincoln Road, Walsall
- Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Fitted Kitchen with Appliances
  - Guest W.C.
  - Utility
  - Conservatory

In the Region Of £220,000



- Stamping Way, Walsall
- Detached Four Bedroom Three Storey
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Fitted Kitchen/Diner
  - Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room
  - Three Further Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £219,950



- Bridgeside Close, Walsall
- Four Bedroom Detached Townhouse
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - Guest W.C.
  - En-Suite
  - Gas central heating
  - Double glazing
  - Single garage



In the Region Of £215,000



- Vernon Way, Walsall
- Two/Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
  - One/Two Reception Rooms
  - Fully Fitted Kitchen
  - Ground Floor Bathroom
  - Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room

In the Region Of £210,000



- Heathside Walk, Walsall
- ●●● NEW BUILD ●●●
  - Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen/Dining Room
  - Downstairs Cloak Room
  - Master Bedroom
  - En-Suite Shower Room

£181,500



- Field Road, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Breakfast Kitchen
  - Utility/Lobby
  - Guest W.C.
  - Three Bedrooms

Guide Price £175,000



- Stoney Lane, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - In Need of Modernisation
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Side Passageway
  - Downstairs W.C.

Offers in Excess of £155,000



- Heathside Walk, Walsall
- ●●● NEW BUILD ●●●
  - Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room
  - Downstairs Cloak Room
  - Master Bedroom

£147,500



- Pattenham Close, Willenhall
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen with Breakfast Area
  - Rear Lobby with Guest W.C.
  - Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room

Offers in Excess of £145,000



- John Riley Drive, Willenhall
- Three Bedroom Detached
  - Extended Entrance Hall
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen with Integrated Appliance
  - Family Bathroom
  - Integral Garage

In the Region Of £139,995



- Ravenscroft Road, Willenhall
- Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Additional Sitting Room/Bedroom
  - Ground Floor Wet Room
  - Three Bedrooms

In the Region Of £139,950



- Beechtree Road, Walsall
- Entrance Hall
  - Guest Cloakroom
  - Lounge
  - Additional Sitting Room/Bedroom
  - Kitchen
  - Three Bedrooms

Asking price of £139,950



- Silver Street, Walsall
- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace
  - Open Plan Lounge / Kitchen
  - Guest W.C.
  - Master Bedroom with En-Suite
  - Family Bathroom
  - Gas Central Heating

In the Region Of £139,500



- Lindon Road, Walsall
- Three bedroom Semi Detached house
  - Porch
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - Shower Room
  - Gas central heating

Offers in Excess of £120,000



NEW

- Warren Place, Walsall
- Large Corner Plot
  - End of Terrace
  - Popular Cul-de-Sac location
  - Lounge with dual aspect windows
  - Kitchen
  - Utility Room
  - Two Double Bedrooms
  - Bathroom



Guide Price £125,000



- Lichfield Road, Willenhall
- Two Bed End of Terrace
  - Lounge/Diner
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom With Shower
  - Enclosed Rear Garden
  - Off Road Parking

In the region of £114,995



- Rough Brook Road, Walsall
- Show Home Style Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment
  - Lounge/Dining Room
  - Fitted Kitchen including Integrated Appliances
  - Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower

In the Region Of £104,995



- Walkers Fold, Willenhall
- Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  - Lounge/Diner
  - Kitchen
  - Two Double Bedrooms
  - Family Bathroom
  - Front & Rear Gardens
  - Off Road Parking
  - Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating



Fixed £104,950



- Hilton Close, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Town House
  - Entrance Hallway
  - Guest W.C.
  - Lounge
  - Dining Room
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom with separate shower cubicle



In the Region Of £94,950



- Terret Close, Walsall
- Modern Two Bedroom Apartment
  - Located Close to Walsall Town Centre
  - Secure Gated Car Park
  - Allocated Parking Space
  - Secure Communal Entrance
  - Lounge

In the Region Of £91,500



- Weston Street, Walsall
- Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Kitchen with Pantry
  - Inner Lobby with Utility
  - Ground Floor Bathroom
  - Two Double Bedrooms
  - Double Glazing
  - Gas Central Heating



In the Region Of £87,500



- West Street, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Kitchen
  - Ground Floor Bathroom
  - Three Double Bedrooms
  - Rear Garden

In the Region Of £85,000



- Dora Street, Walsall
- Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Recently Fitted Kitchen
  - Rear Lobby with Utility
  - Guest W.C.
  - Two Double Bedrooms

Offers in Excess of £85,000



- Cartbridge Walk, Walsall
- Two Bed End of Terrace
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom With Shower
  - Front & Rear Gardens
  - Double Glazing

Offers in Excess of £72,000



- Lawnoaks Close, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
  - 50% shared ownership
  - Lounge Diner
  - Kitchen
  - Bathroom
  - Rear Garden

In the Region Of £72,000



- Clarkes Lane, Willenhall
- Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Utility Room
  - Two Bedrooms
  - Family Bathroom

£70,000



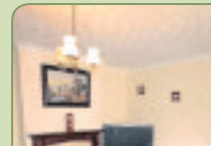
- Woodcroft Court, Hawbury
- Two bedroom ground floor apartment
  - Gated courtyard
  - Allocated parking space
  - lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Shower room

Offers in excess of £70,000



- Livingstone Road, Walsall
- Two Bedrooms
  - Third Floor Flat
  - Lounge
  - Raised Dining Area
  - Kitchen
  - Bathroom

In the region of £64,950



- Fisher Road, Walsall
- One Bedroom Ground Floor Maisonette
  - Lounge/Dining Room
  - Kitchen
  - Double Bedroom
  - Recently Fitted Shower Room
  - Off Road Parking
  - Enclosed Rear Garden
  - Double Glazing



Offers in Excess of £60,000

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# X hits the spot for Fiat

By David Banner

**Fiat has expanded its highly successful 500 franchise in the shape of the dinky 500X SUV.**

The Fiat 500X joins the crossover fray, offering a neat and stylish extension of the 500 franchise. With a choice of front or all-wheel drive, some modern diesel and petrol engines and some aggressive pricing, this one's going to be extremely popular.

The front-wheel drive models will doubtless prove more popular with British buyers who are about as likely to take the 500X off-roading as they are to send it round the Nurburgring.

You'll need to pay attention to the badging.

A 500X Cross Plus has all-wheel drive but a 500X Cross merely looks as if it does. This being Fiat, we get a range of excellent engines right from the get-go.

The petrol engines comprise a 109bhp 1.6-litre E-torQ and the more sophisticated 138bhp 1.4-litre Turbo MultiAir2 unit.

Go diesel and you're looking at the smooth 118bhp 1.6-litre MultiJet II for front-wheel drive applications and the 138bhp 2.0-litre MultiJet II if you want four-wheel drive, the latter being mated to a nine(!)-speed automatic transmission. The manual 'boxes get six speeds, unless you're looking at the entry-level 1.6-litre E-torQ transmission, which makes do with five ratios.

Fiat has also developed 168bhp 1.4-litre and 184bhp 2.4 petrol powerplants for this car, both with the auto and all-wheel drive.

The 1.6-litre diesel that will attract most footfall here in the UK is respectably brisk, getting to 62mph in 10.5 seconds, while delivering a 320Nm slug of torque.

The all-wheel drive models aren't designed to handle quite the same terrain as the related Jeep Renegade (which gets additional underbody strengthening), but there are tight approach and departure angles and reasonable 179mm of ground clearance that will help drivers tackle light rough terrain. That compares to 162mm you get on front-wheel drive models.

The 4x4 500X models are also equipped with specific bumpers and protective skid plates to protect the bodywork and mechanicals from the rigours of off-road use.

## Original

The 500X's curvaceous roofline and windows is instantly reminiscent of the original Cinquecento. It's certainly something we can imagine proving very popular indeed, and which will give its rivals plenty to worry about.

There will always be resistance to any manufacturer that extends the scope of a retro reissue beyond that of the original car.

People lambasted MINI for doing just this with cars like the Countryman and Paceman, but if the job is done well, the buying public does come round.

The 500X certainly looks the part and continues a long tradition of small all-wheel drive Fiats, so it's not just a bit of a wheeze dreamed up by some kid in the marketing department with the ink still wet on his MBA certificate.

The styling is neat and assured, it fills



**'Fiat has priced it aggressively, equipped it generously and it's got room enough inside to fulfil that crossover remit.'**

a genuinely useful gap in the range, succeeding the Sedici, and the engineering that underpins it is all reassuringly right and exact.

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# Shades of NIH but it's still a great mid-size crossover

By Ian Donaldson

Car designers call it 'NIH' and it keeps them from adopting features that work well in rival products until the market researchers say they've simply got to go ahead and copy.

NIH? It stands for 'Not Invented Here' and you see it applied all the time in the car industry, as an obvious and workable bit of kit is rejected in favour of something that doesn't work as well, but is not a copy of someone else's idea.

There is a shining example of NIH in the car on test here, a mid-size crossover from Lexus, the luxury arm of Toyota and this time aimed straight at the heart of BMW, with the X5 clearly a major target.

But we'll touch on the problem later. First, let's enjoy a positive demonstration of NIH, in a car that was clearly designed to look unlike any rival and pulls off the trick with great success.

The NX (for Nimble Crossover, would you believe) is decidedly handsome, with a mix of slashes and curves that give it the dynamism of a toned athlete, muscles tensed in the starting blocks.

Inside, this stand-out styling continues with a cabin that manages to look a bit technical – lots of switches – but drips with craftsmanlike touches, showing in lines of double stitching on the soft leather trim and convincing, if fake, alloy trim.

## Instant

The NIH thinking continues in the bits of the NX you can't see, with the pairing of a conventional petrol engine and electric motors front and rear to help out at low speed, improving economy and making shorter urban journeys pollution free. It also provides instant all-wheel drive if the going gets slippery.

Now, you may think the simple way to economy is still to pop a diesel under the bonnet, but lots of places where the NX is aiming for sales, like Japan and the United States, simply don't like diesels.

So this hybrid petrol/electric solution works for them, and makes a case for itself in diesel-friendly Britain, with a car that showed 36mpg after several hundred miles of mixed use. A diesel would have done a bit better, I'm sure, but would have made more noise while doing so.

In fact quietness, especially on a decent road surface, is a strong feature of life with an NX. Passengers soon noticed how easily they could speak, front to rear, as the car whisked them along the M11 at a typical motorway cruise.

## Adaptive

That sort of road gave them the best of the NX's ride, which is firm to the point of jiggly on poor surfaces. The test car came with £750 worth of adaptive suspension that firmed things up at the twist of a knob and made the steering a bit more positive, and which actually improved things on better roads.

So, the NIH syndrome has pretty well worked up to now. There has to be something more to say, you are wondering?

Yes there is, in the shape of a wildly irritating touch pad between the front seats that you must use to work the satellite navigation system (£1,995 extra) and for many adjustments to the sound system.

Frankly, its hyperactive wish to outguess my finger's intention drove me mad. Rival use knobs you can twist and push, to both better effect, but Lexus shunned that solution, presumably with NIH to the fore.

Ignore that irritant (and you might have nimbler fingers than me) and the rest of the car makes a good case for itself, especially if you want something a bit out of the mainstream.

For your money you will enjoy a car that is conspicuously well put together and pretty well equipped too.

I admired the inductive charging pad for the right mobile phone (no wires to connect), while a female passenger loved the dinky lift-out mirror by the gear selector.



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# Hot-hatch icon reborn in race car for the road

## Commercial feature

After a five year wait, 2015 sees the arrival of the world's keenly anticipated hot hatch, the Honda Civic Type R. Billed as a 'race car for the road', the all-new Civic Type R will set new standards in the high-performance front-wheel drive hatchback segment.

The production version of Honda's latest hot hatch icon was revealed for the first time at the 85th Geneva Motor show this week.

Type R vehicles have garnered a cult following around the world and the new model more than lives up to the high expectations. A world-first application of Honda's new 2.0-litre VTEC TURBO engine, aggressive function-led styling, and pioneering new chassis technologies combine to deliver one of the most immersive and rewarding driving experiences available in any sector.

The new 2015 Civic Type R will be powered by the most extreme and high-performing engine in the 22-year history of the red 'H' badge, signalling the start of a new performance era for the Honda brand.

At the heart of the Civic Type R is an all-new, direct-injected turbocharged 2.0 litre Vtec Turbo petrol engine, which delivers power, torque and performance figures unmatched in the front-wheel drive hot hatch segment. Peak power output is 310PS at 6,500rpm, and peak torque is 400Nm at 2,500rpm – both higher than for any previous Honda Type R model.

Red-lining at 7,000rpm, the engine – part of Honda's next-generation Earth Dreams Technology series – features an advanced new turbocharger with Vtec technology that boosts low-end torque and delivers sustained acceleration.

The Civic Type R's blistering performance is unmatched in the front-wheel drive hot hatch segment: the 0-to-100km/h (62 mph) sprint is covered in just 5.7 seconds – making it the fastest accelerating performance front-wheel drive hatchback – and top speed, where permitted, is a class-leading 270km/h (167 mph).

## Rewarding

The new engine is mated to a slick-shifting six-speed manual transmission, safeguarding an intimate, rewarding connection with the drivetrain, and power is directed through the front wheels.

The styling changes that are unique to the Civic Type R give the car an aggressive, purposeful stance, yet almost all have a functional purpose. The sleek and aerodynamically-efficient design reflects a car developed to perform at speed. The focus on aerodynamics has ensured high-speed stability and high levels of downforce.

To achieve this aim, the Civic Type R was subject to exhaustive aerodynamic analysis, testing and development. The development team tirelessly pursued its objectives through computer-based CFD modelling and wind tunnel testing at Honda's dedicated automotive motorsports facility in Sakura, Japan; home of Honda's Formula One engine development.

A new, almost completely flat underside aids airflow under the vehicle and combines with a rear diffuser to optimise downforce – effectively 'sucking' the car onto the road.

The rear wing has been reimagined from the Type R Concept. The structure of the airfoil – its angle, height and shape as well as its vertical end plates – have been carefully engineered to optimise downforce without causing a significant increase in drag at higher speeds. This helps improve road-holding abilities, particularly through high-speed corners.

A wide front splitter and deep side skirts also manage airflow and reduce lift, while the front bumper has been shaped specifically to inhibit air turbulence around the front wheels, enhancing high-speed stability and reducing lift forces.

To help the driver manage the Type R's power, the car is equipped with a high performance Brembo brake package, developed specifically for the car. A number of innovative new suspension systems, unique to the Type R, have been introduced to produce rewarding handling characteristics and to maximise power transfer to the road.

The new Civic Type R will mark the debut of the new '+R' button that increases the response of various chassis and drivetrain systems. The result is an even more intense driving experience, ideal for the track and for the genuine sports-driving enthusiast.

When +R mode is activated, engine responsiveness is heightened, with torque-mapping changed to a more aggressive and performance-focused setting. Steering receives reduced power assistance and is therefore more responsive to driver inputs, and basic damping force from the new four-point Adaptive Damper System is increased by 30 per cent. This means the behaviour of the car is firmer and more agile for high-performance handling.

The all-new Honda Civic Type R will go on sale across Europe from this summer. Full vehicle specifications will be announced in due course.



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# Pageant revs up for 2015

By Anthony Martyn

**The Cholmondeley Pageant of Power is setting the wheels in motion for 2015.**

This year's event, which takes place from June 12 to 14, will go back to its roots by celebrating 'power' in all its forms.

With a wide range of exciting races, stunts, competitions and displays covering on-road, off-road, water and air, the three-day CPOP will give visitors their most thrilling experience yet.

Providing a real show-stopping spectacle and reinforcing the 'power' theme will be a 1,000bhp-plus class on the famous Cholmondeley race track.

Backing this up will be the world's most powerful rally cars from the notorious Group B era and Formula One cars from the fearsome Eighties turbo era. The theme will be further emphasised by a range of 200bhp bikes, including the Suzuki RG500 XRB0, the most powerful two-stroke ever made.

If that wasn't enough, each day of the event will also have its own special theme. On Friday, June 12, visitors will be treated to the first-ever parade of all production Lotus models ever manufactured, organised by the Historic Lotus Register.

Featuring everything from the original Seven to the Esprit to the most powerful Lotus ever, the Evora GTE, these models will also be taking part in a special concours dedicated to the British marque.

## Octane

Two further power-focused concours events will take place during the weekend. Saturday, June 13 will see American muscle cars battling it out to take the grand prize, with Plymouth Barracuda HEMIs taking on Dodge Challengers in a high-octane gathering.

Sunday, June 14 will feature the very glamorous assembly of a host of Eighties supercars. These bedroom wall poster heroes were also the most powerful cars of their era – just take the Lamborghini Countach 5000QV with its 455bhp 5.2-litre V12 for example, a car that will undoubtedly be one of the stars of the show.

All elements of the event will be set against the stunning backdrop of Cholmondeley Castle and its beautiful parkland and 20-acre lake.



**'Only motorsport event in the UK where visitors can be enthralled by explosive power on land, water and in the air.'**

James Hall, event director, said: "This is the eighth year that CPOP has been running and we have a lot of exciting elements in the pipeline to make this year's line-up bigger and better than ever."

"CPOP is the only motorsport event in the UK where visitors can be enthralled by explosive power on land, water and in the air."

"We're making even more of a feast for the senses this year by going back to our roots with the theme of 'power'."

"In 2014, 67,000 people attended, a

record number for the event and with our focus on power, whether it's a highly modified 1000bhp-plus special on the track, an American muscle car or an Eighties supercar, we're looking forward to welcoming even more visitors in 2015."

More event details will be released in the coming months but tickets are now on sale at [www.cpop.co.uk](http://www.cpop.co.uk) for the event at Cholmondeley Castle, Malpas, Cheshire. Adults tickets are priced from £22 and children's tickets are free if purchased before April 30, 2015.



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Progress Drive, Bridge Town, Cannock, WS11 0JE, **01543 431360**  
[www.suzuki.co.uk/autosalecannock](http://www.suzuki.co.uk/autosalecannock)

**Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Celerio range mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km): Urban 55.3-68.9 (5.3-4.1), Extra Urban 76.3-83.0 (3.7-3.4), Combined 65.7-78.4 (4.3-3.6), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 99-84 g/km.**

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Model shown: Celerio S23 (metallic paint available at £415). For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. \*Celerio range – Celerio S23 Manual available at £7,999 to Celerio S24 Manual available at £8,999. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st January 2015 to 31st March 2015 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers.





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# 1

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# 2

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Wednesday & Saturday Bootsale, A461, Muckley Corner, Lichfield WS14 0BU

**07890 267041**  
www.bestbootsales.com

### INDOOR BOOT SALE

Sunday Afternoons: 2-5pm  
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80 pitches, 'Just turn up'. Sellers 1pm  
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**CARAVAN WANTED** 4 berth, up to £8,000. For details contact 07795 950905.

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### jumble sales / fetes

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50p admission.  
Further details 0121 3582502

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# 3

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**5 Business & Farming**

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**business advice**

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In return we offer full training and support, an annual salary of £10,396, 25 days holiday per calendar year and enrolment into the company pension scheme.

The position is 27.5 hours per week working between Monday & Friday.

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**POSTAL APPLICATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:**  
**PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT**  
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CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2015.

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**CITROEN XSARA Picasso**, 1.6, 2001, blue, MoT August 15, 68,462 miles, good condition, £595. ono. 07971 522797.

**DAEWOO MATIZ SE** 5dr, 02, MoT, CD, power steering. Very nice car. Lady owner. £550. 07486 241 668.

**MG 2T Plus** 2004, full MoT, low miles, 1.8 CD alloys, ES, very nice condition, £650. 07486 189023.

**PEUGEOT 206** 3 door, 1.4, 2004, £1,375 ono. 07444 072591.

**PEUGEOT 206 LX HDI** diesel, 52 reg, MoT Sept, CD, Elc's, power steering, alloys, drives well. Nice car. £500. 07486 189 010.

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**9 Local Information**

**public & legal notices**

**HIGHWAYS AGENCY**

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(A) THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (MUCKLEY CORNER, STAFFORDSHIRE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make an order on the A5 Trunk Road, at Muckley Corner in the County of Staffordshire, to allow the installation of new lighting columns.

The effect of the Order will be to -

1. close the eastbound and westbound carriageways of the A5 between the roundabout junction with Hanney Hay Road and Barracks Lane and the roundabout junction with the A461 and Hall Lane (Muckley Corner Roundabout); and
2. prohibit vehicles from entering or leaving the length of A5 described in 1. above at the junction with Lion's Den.

The work will be carried out overnight between 21:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start on Wednesday 25 March 2015 and continue for approximately 8 weeks. The Order will come into force on Monday 23 March 2015.

Vehicles being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closures and prohibition.

Diversion routes via the A452 and A461 and vice versa will be signed. Access to property will be maintained at all times.

For further information, please contact Purnima Kaul on 0121 678 8586.

**Mike Lloyd**, a Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency.

**Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control**

**Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1980 Development Management Procedure Order 2010 (as amended)**

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online **www.walsall.gov.uk/planning**. Representations can be made online, email: **planning@walsall.gov.uk** or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.

**Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

**15/02/40/FL** Mr A Toon FOR: Conversion of 4 bed house to a 2 bed house and 1 bed flat (re-submission following refusal of 14/1308/FL). AT: 6 Ashtree Road, Walsall, WS3 4LR

**15/02/75/FL & 15/02/78/FL** Mayfield Preparatory School, FOR: New school hall and changing facilities. Relocation of adventure play area and extension to tarmac play area. AT: Mayfield Preparatory School, Sutton Road, Walsall, WS1 2PD



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**6**  
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**10**  
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# Blox take a pasting from the league leaders

**Bloxwich RFC 1st XV 12  
Handsworth RFC 66**

BLOXWICH RFC hosted league leaders Handsworth RFC on a windy day at King George's.

The first 10 minutes were scoreless until Handsworth used the ball well with a delayed pass for the outside centre to run in through a gap in the Bloxwich defence.

Bloxwich struggled to keep up with the intensity of Handsworth and due to missed tackles and inexperience Handsworth scored further tries in quick succession.

Bloxwich stayed focused and competed well with Handsworth's mobile and strong runners, with reward coming from a try by No.8 Jack Hunt who was first to react to spilt ball from a Handsworth line out, and ran in unopposed from just inside the 22.

With the conversion missed the half time score stood at 5 -31 to Handsworth.

The second half started with the visitors executing some ruthless play that opened up the Bloxwich defence time and time again.

It was a game that was dominated by Handsworth but Bloxwich did have their chances.

However, when Bloxwich set up an attack inside centre Daniel Hough decided to go the direct route and deflected two tacklers to go over the line and score for Bloxwich.

Full back Dean Bottomer was good with the conversion from the far right hand side, when he used the wind and his left foot to curl the ball in between the posts.

Handsworth scored more tries. Solace can be taken from the performances of the younger players.

# Reserves fall to comeback Shrews team

**Shewsbury Res 2 Walsall Res 1**

A young Shrewsbury reserves side put in an impressive display to beat West Midlands rivals Walsall 2-1 in the Development League Northern Cup.

A goal from James Caton and a spectacular free-kick from an unnamed trialist secured the comeback win after the young Shrews found themselves a goal down to a Levi Rowley strike.

The Saddlers started on the front foot and took the lead on 14 minutes when Jamie Smith chipped the ball over the defence to an on-rushing Rowley. The striker took the ball into the box and calmly slotted past namesake Shaun Rowley in the Shrewsbury goal.

Town pulled level when Caton collected the ball on the edge of the box and hit a dipping shot into the bottom corner.

Chances then came and went for before Shrewsbury grabbed the winner in the 89th minute.

# Sherwood in challenge to spur Benteke

ASTON Villa boss Tim Sherwood challenged Christian Benteke to fire himself back to form and throw the match ball in his doubters' faces.

The misfiring striker has scored just three times this season with Villa second bottom of the Barclays Premier League ahead of Saturday's trip to Newcastle.

Villa are the lowest scoring team in the top flight having hit just 13 goals in 26 games this season.

Benteke has contributed just two of those and Sherwood threw down the gauntlet to the Belgium hitman ahead of their trip to the north-east.

"I want to see him take the match ball with a hat-trick and throw it back in people's faces," he said.

"Teams should be scared of him. They've got memories like me. I remember him terrorising defenders."

# Friend becomes foe to be champ

FRIENDS had to become foes for Darlaston's Benjamin Whittaker to become a national champion in the England Youth Championships.

The talented 17-year-old, who represents Steve O'Rourke's Wodensborough Boxing Club, made up for defeat in last year's final.

He didn't get the chance to settle the score with nemesis Jimmy Smith, though, with the Repton fighter beaten in the other semi-final.

That left Whittaker and big mate Zak Chelli to decide the 75kg crown and it went the way of the West Midlands prospect, on a split points decision.

Victory secured his England place, in his first year at middleweight, for next month's Tri-Nations and

took him one step closer to his ultimate goal of September's Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa.

Trainer O'Rourke said: "We took Ben up from 69kg and he will be stopping where he is now. He's not a fully-fledged middleweight, yet, but he will grow into it.

"It's a shame we couldn't get Smith again. I have asked for that fight five times since the final, on club shows and the like. As it turns out, we don't need him now."

Whittaker got his hands and feet moving to catch the eye for the first two rounds before Londoner Chelli, representing Times Boxing Club, fought back to take it to the cards, with the Black Country

stylist prevailing. Meanwhile, Akash Tuqir suffered national final heartbreak for a fourth time after a split decision went against him at 52kg.

Twice in the England Schoolboys and once in the Junior championships has the former Tri-Nations title winner come off second best.

And the 16-year-old, boxing for Merridale in Wolverhampton, felt aggrieved after he was nudged out of the verdict by Brandon Doard, from Everton Red Triangle in Merseyside.

Warley's Corey Clarke also lost in the heavyweight final of 91kg to Barnstaple's Robert Squires unanimously, after outpointing Spennymoor's Andrew Grover in the semi-finals.

# Draw for Wood was always on the cards

**Walsall Wood 1 AFC Wulfrunians 1**  
**NOT surprisingly the game between the divisions form teams ended all square.**

Wood started brightly, playing some neat enterprising football without finding the net in the first 45 minutes.

They went ahead from the penalty spot on 51 minutes, but the introduction of young substitute Demetri Brown on the hour changed the whole complexion of the game and he nipped between defender and keeper on 80 minutes to plunder the equaliser.

A bright start from both sides but it was Wood who threatened first, Luke Adams and Ben Evans combining in the centre to feed Joey Butlin, he powered through one tackle but under pressure from Ryan Talbot he fired over the bar.

Two minutes later a lovely ball out wide right by Max Black found Corey Currithers who cut back inside, laid the ball square to Harry Harris to hit a first time effort goalwards, keeper Jonathon Brown's full-length save pushing the ball onto the post.

On 18 minutes Butlin released Luke Adams wide right, he made the box only to overhit his cross.

## Brave

Five minutes later it was Black collecting the ball from a left wing throw running at the defence, Jordan Perks making a brave block.

A minute into the second half, a left wing cross from Evans was completely missed by Brown, Perks saving the keeper's blushes by heading off the line. On 51 minutes Harris raced onto a ball into the left of the box only to go down under a mistimed challenge; Butlin making no mistake from the spot to put Wood ahead.

Ten minutes from time a ball over the top of the Wood defence held up on the wind, saw Kisiel come to the edge of the box and hesitate, which allowed Brown in to lift the ball calmly over the keeper.

On 90 minutes a right to left move across the face of the Wood box ended with Nathan Rose-Laing firing in a low drive that brought a superb full-length save from Kisiel, the ball flying out to Mitchell McDonald whose first time effort was pushed away by the keeper, but only straight to Liam Bood to fire the loose ball high and wide.

This was a better performance by Wood and gave them a lift for the three games in the next eight days. Boldmere St Michael's followed by Continental Star at Oak Park on Saturday and then Basford United on Tuesday March 10.

# Walsall suffer disappointment



Walsall scrum half Neil Pittaway gets his pass away during the match at Stratford

**Stratford 32 Walsall 23**

WALSALL suffered a disappointing defeat at Stratford.

The hosts scored a converted try just after four minutes before the visitors got their first score with a Roger Weston penalty.

A Stratford try near the corner flag extended their lead. Late in the half a poor kick out of defence resulted in them conceding

a penalty. Fly half Simon Brain converted the easy kick.

Walsall made a sustained attack and scrum half Neil Pittaway got a try.

The visitors had the advantage of the strong breeze in the second half and Weston used it well to put over an early penalty. Stratford responded with another try.

Weston closed the gap to just

three points with two more penalties. Winger Whitby burst through the Walsall defence to give Stratford the initiative late in the game.

But once again Weston closed the gap with another two penalties.

The hosts had the last word as they took advantage of a Walsall error.

# Preston get revenge over Saddlers

**Preston 1 Saddlers 0**

THE law of averages perhaps meant Preston were due a win over Walsall at some point.

Yet the manner of it will still sting for the Saddlers.

In the fourth meeting between the teams this season, Daniel Johnson's 19th-minute strike was enough to give the Lillywhites victory and become the first side since Crawley on October 21 to beat Dean Smith's men on their travels in the league.

During that spell the Saddlers have often played with a remarkable tenacity, but for the first hour at Deepdale they were barely at the races.

Not only was boss Simon Grayson able to call on top scorer Joe Garner, he also fielded on-loan Villa striker Callum Robinson up front and, in Johnson, had a player who bossed the midfield for most of the night. In that respect, Smith's decision to rest Romaine Sawyers and hand a rare start to Ashley Grimes in his place came as a surprise and the Saddlers certainly missed the composure and creativity of their chief playmaker during the first half.

He wasn't the only absentee, with James Chambers returning to the starting line-up in place of Paul Downing, who missed out through injury.

## Football

Left-back Andy Taylor, who struggled at times during Saturday's 1-1 draw at Bradford, was also on the bench with 17-year-old Rico Henry instead handed the start.

But his night lasted only 24 minutes as he had to be replaced by Taylor after picking up a knock in the build-up to Preston's opener.

**Indebted**

Just as in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy meeting on this ground a month ago, the Saddlers found themselves on the back foot early on and indebted to keeper Richard O'Donnell for ensuring they did not fall behind sooner.

Garner, who missed that game through injury, had the first chance but sent his diving header straight at O'Donnell after reaching Paul Gallagher's deep cross.

The keeper's next save was more impressive as he threw himself to his right to keep out Gallagher's half-volley after a Chris Humphrey cross found the winger in space and unmarked at the far post.

From the hosts' fourth corner in the opening nine minutes, Garner then forced O'Donnell into another sharp save with a header and then should have done far better soon after, when he could only roll his finish straight at the keeper having broken into the box.

Johnson showed him how to do it on 19 minutes when he scored his second in as many games to put North End ahead.

The goal owed much to a fine first-time pass out to Humphrey which allowed the wideman to run at Henry, who tumbled over as they entered the box and could only watch in despair as the ball was pulled back for Johnson to fire home.

The second period began ominously as Gallagher opened a long-range effort off the bar within the opening 40 seconds and Garner headed the rebound over the bar.

Home skipper Tom Clarke was the next to test and be frustrated by O'Donnell as his header from a corner was pushed onto the post and behind by the Saddlers keeper.

In stoppage time the Saddlers almost snatched an improbable point when James O'Connor's header was hacked off the line.

# Bloxwich are victors in must-win match-up

**Oswestry 1  
Bloxwich Mens 1st XI 4**

WEEKS of preparation and hard training had been leading up to this must win match for Bloxwich.

With Oswestry being the only team whom Bloxwich have not beaten in the league, the Barbarians were ready for a tough match against strong opposition.

The match started off evenly with chances being created by both sides.

The deadlock was broken by some quick play from Oswestry who opened the scoring with a thumping strike into the back of the net.

The equaliser for Bloxwich came from the most unlikely of sources with right back John Morris getting his first ever goal for Bloxwich on his 30th birthday weekend.

The equaliser is just what Bloxwich needed and helped refocus them for the tough second half.

Oswestry were rattled with three yellow cards, helping Bloxwich push for the win which was sealed with Matt Whitehouse getting a goal to take Bloxwich into the lead, Gary Williams getting his second of the season with a tight angled finish and Adam Baldwin adding another to his tally in his quest to finishing the league as the top scorer.

A well-deserved win for Bloxwich after a long drive and a result the team could not have been happier with.

Goal scorer John Morris said after the game he was happy to get his first goal for the team in such important circumstances and in such a crucial game. "It is a great win for the team and I hope we can keep this going."

# Boney Hay cut down Wood in league One

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Q-Bar 3 Dog FC 0

**Walsall Sunday Challenge Cup semi final**

AFC Bush 1 New Inns 0; Prince of Wales 2 Anchor FC 0

# Darlow victory puts them back at the summit

**Darlaston Town 2  
AFC Worcester Olympics 0**

DARLASTON Town returned to the top of West Midlands League Division Two.

The home side opened the scoring in the 14th minute when Mark Swann created space for himself, beat his defender and drilled the ball home in off the post.

Anthony Follows shot home from 10 yards in the 74th minute to settle the outcome and relieve the tension amongst players and supporters alike.

Darlaston could have added to their goal tally late on but Allen, Craven and Swann were all thwarted by Passant.

This Saturday they are looking to build on this success as they entertain Sikh Hunters.





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## Khalsa bump up comfort zone in table

**Sporting Khalsa 3  
Wolverhampton Casuals 0**

NINE points now separate Sporting Khalsa and second-placed Bridgnorth with three games in hand for Ian Rowe's men after a comfortable win over Staffordshire side Wolverhampton Casuals.

Casuals mustered only one notable effort on goal during the match, a header from free-scoring striker Dan Westwood inches wide after brilliant work down the left from Jordan Uppal on 35 minutes, just after Khalsa had opened the scoring.

Just before the half hour, Khalsa thought they had scored the opener when Simeon Townsend headed home a Jackson corner, only for the ref to pull back play for a foul elsewhere.

Townsend did play a part in the eventual first goal, feeding Mensah Kinch on 33 minutes to finish in style.

The lead was doubled on 41 minutes when Robinson was fouled in the box and Jackson smashed home the resulting penalty.

In the second half, Jackson had the chance to make it three when Bannister was chopped down in the box but smashed his second penalty against the bar.

Townsend effectively put the game to bed with a great left foot shot on 52 minutes after great link up work with Bannister.

Substitute Ben Hadley blazed a shot over on 70 minutes after good work by Brad Lawley and two minutes later Robinson headed just wide after a Lee Wherton corner.

Khalsa travel to face holders Tividale in the JW Hunt on Tuesday before entertaining Smithwick Rangers on Saturday, kick off 3pm.

## Being at Banks's has helped me, says striker Jordy

STRIKER Jordy Hiwula believes Walsall are making him a better player after seeing his loan stay extended.

The Manchester City star has scored three goals in six games since joining the Saddlers on deadline day and will now spend at least another month at the Banks's Stadium.

And the 20-year-old is vowing to kick on and improve even further over the next few weeks, which will include a trip to Wembley in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final.

"I'm pleased with how things have gone," he said. "I have been working on my finishing and have scored different types of goal since I have been here."

"I'm just glad I will be here for another month and can work with the coaches and the gaffer. I feel everyone has helped me since I have been here."

"I'm definitely a better player. I think my awareness is better on the pitch because I am playing with men and I think my hold-up play has improved."

"I'm making good runs into the box and I think that has improved too."

"We have a lot of games coming up and that will help me."

## Smith tells fans, keep it for end of game

DEAN SMITH claims Walsall must stick together to break out of their current slump – as he called on supporters to save any negativity for the final whistle.

The Saddlers boss felt comments from sections of the Banks's Stadium crowd adversely affected his players during Saturday's 2-0 home defeat to Leyton Orient.

Smith said: "It doesn't help when you are trying to pass it and there are a couple of ironic cheers."

"I think it just hinders the players more than anything else."

"We all get frustrated but vent those frustra-

### Football

tions at the end of the game and not during the 90 minutes. The players do not go out to purposely make mistakes, they are all willing lads who give 100 per cent and try to play to the best of their ability."

The defeat saw the Saddlers fall seven points adrift of the top six, while they are now just six points clear of the bottom four ahead of tomorrow's trip to bottom club Yeovil.

Smith, who felt the state of the Banks's Stadium pitch also hindered his players, wants to see

a much improved performance. "We have to stay together as a group because the last couple of results have not been good enough," added Smith. "We have to stay together."

Winger Anthony Forde, who missed the game after a recurrence of a groin problem, will be reassessed today while Paul Downing is pushing for a return in defence after having to make do with a place on the bench against Orient.

Smith, meanwhile, rejected the suggestion the four-game slump, in which the Saddlers have lost three also only managed one goal, is because players have one eye on the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final.

# SEVENTH HELL FOR SADDLERS

**Walsall 0 Leyton Orient 2**

**FOR a club just weeks from one of the biggest days in its history, smiles were thin on the ground in Walsall.**

This abject performance, which resulted in a deserved seventh home league defeat of the season, has the Saddlers looking nervously over their shoulders and wondering just where they have gone wrong.

Manager Dean Smith, meanwhile, took a swipe at a section of the 5,239-crowd for their 'sarcasm' which he felt helped contribute to the wayward display.

Whatever the reasons, Smith needs to find a fix and quick, or a season guaranteed to be memorable could yet end with a sting in the tail.

Talk of a play-off push appeared genuine just a fortnight ago but is now surely fanciful after the Saddlers fell seven points adrift of the top six. Many more performances like this and a relegation battle will instead become the reality after Orient – top of the drop zone – moved within six points of their accommodating hosts.

### Disarray

The east London team had arrived at the Banks's in apparent disarray with rumours of players not being paid.

Yet they dominated the game from the first kick to the last and could and probably should have won by more than the two-goal margin earned through Ryan Hedges and Chris Dagnall's second-half strikes.

Walsall, by contrast, were simply second best and did not seriously test visiting keeper Alex Cisk until deep into stoppage time when teenage striker Amadou Bakayoko let fly from distance during an impressive cameo.

The hosts were not helped by the absence once more of winger Anthony Forde following a recurrence of his groin injury. But, by the same token, Smith was able to welcome back top scorer Tom Bradshaw and field both him and Jordy Hiwula in the same line-up.

On this evidence it is a system which needs work as the on-loan Manchester City star's tendency to drift in from the left wing left the Sad-



**Top scorer Tom Bradshaw was back in the team but even he couldn't find a way through**

dlers frequently unbalanced in the first half.

Bradshaw was, in any case, well shackled by the visiting defence, while Jordan Cook was largely anonymous and Romaine Sawyers under-utilised.

Four games which have brought just one point have also supplied only one goal and a team which looked to have gone some way to solving its issues in front of goal is in danger of slipping back into their early-season slumber.

Smith will not panic but must surely be concerned by the lack of intensity on show, not just here but in the first hour of Tuesday night's defeat at Preston. In both games, his team have been emphatically second best.

Orient should have been ahead at the break but

Saddlers keeper Richard O'Donnell brilliantly denied Jobi McAnuff, while both Dagnall and David Mooney were off target with good chances.

Hedges finally did put them in front 11 minutes into the second half with an emphatic finish into the bottom corner after racing onto Josh Wright's clever flick.

Three minutes later the lead was doubled as Hedges turned provider, finding Dagnall in acres of space on the right-hand side of the box to fire a finish high above O'Donnell and into the net.

Orient saw out the final half-hour with worrying ease and come the final whistle the worries were all Smith's, as he must plot how to lift his team from its sudden malaise.

## Pics triumph over rivals Kings Lynn

**Kings Lynn Town 0 Rushall Olympic 4**  
RUSHALL made it five wins in their last seven away Evo-Stik Premier games thanks to a 4-0 triumph over hosts Kings Lynn Town.

Pics should have been ahead when Steven Leslie played Aaron Williams through early on, only for the striker to slice his effort wide when through one-on-one with Alex Street.

The visitors opened the scoring taking a deserved lead when Gavin Caines slotted in a 37th-minute penalty after Ross Watson had fouled Aris Christophorou.

They doubled their lead seven minutes into the second half of the game as Kris Taylor sent over a corner was volleyed in from close range by Williams which came courtesy of some slack Linnetts marking.

### Miscued

Pics made it 3-0 after 77 minutes the score came when Jake Heath miscued a shot from which Christophorou teed up Caines to tap home into the net.

The rout was completed with just three minutes of the game remaining as Street came darting out of his box and gave Jordan Yong a driven pass which he couldn't control and Williams nicked in to dribble his way into an empty net and consolidate the game for the Pics.

**Rushall Olympic:** Price, Melbourne, Hawker, Taylor, Christophorou, Caines, Heath, Palmer, Williams, Roberts (Gascogne 78), Leslie (Reid 81).

**Subs not used:** Smith, Williams, Duggan.

**Kings Lynn Town:** Street, Ramm (Spriggs 58), Yong, Eze, Fryatt, Watson, Bell, Quigley (Stocker 85), Frew (Bridges 58), Mulready, Winn.

**Subs not used:** McLeish, Colman.

## Wolves backed to make the play-offs

WOLVES are being backed to make the play-offs – because they have got the lot. Former Molineux striker Nathan Blake, who watched their 1-0 victory at Cardiff on Saturday, reckons they have the quality to finish in the top six.

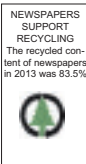
"I fancy them to go as far as anyone – they're a solid, good, athletic outfit with a bit of pace, bit of power, bit of prowess – they've got it all," said Blake, who scored one of Wolves' goals in the 2003 play-off final win to the Premier League.

"On this form, I'd back them to make the play-offs and if this Wolves team doesn't, they should be very disappointed."

Blake, 43, added: "Wolves look very good."

★★★

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